FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VIDELA ADDRESSES NATION ON FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

FY011341 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0001 GMT 1 Apr 80 FY

[Speech to the nation by President Jorge Rafael Videla on the fourth anniversary of his assumption of the nation's presidency, from government house--live]

[Excerpts] To the Argentine people: Four years marked by intensive and decisive events in the history of the country have passed. Broken down into days and hours, some of them fraught with momentous events, these 4 years constitute a timeframe which has transformed the life of the nation in all its aspects.

The many achievements, which are reflected in statistics but above all in real facts, are not only a badge of merit for the conduct of the government, but the result of common action in a great undertaking mobilizing all the people who have stepped forward to stake our their own destinies.

To these people, with their heads raised high in just pride, I will address myself once again on this new anniversary to discuss with all possible clarity and frankness the problems of the current Argentine situation and their reflections upon the unrenounceable future of greatness to which we are committed.

As the man responsible for the nation's government in exceptional circumstances, I must give an account of actions which can withstand by their clarity the inevitable scrutiny of my fellow citizens.

If we look at the present situation with objectivity, we can see that--regardless of biased interpretations made at home and abroad--a regime of full freedom exists and that a state of law is gradually being rebuilt through the absolute independence of the judiciary. Peace and security, not as ends in themselves but as means to the full self-realization of the individual within a dynamic community, are today irrefutable facts which form a positive contrast to the lack of order and even the anguish which afflicted the country until a few years ago.

This peace is--as everybody knows--the result of the heroic determination of those who kept a vigil with weapons in hands or of those who stood up in a manly and decisive position to demonstrate clearly the capacity of the Argentines when it comes to confronting those intent on taking away from their them sacred right to live in freedom, a freedom complemented by a clear sense of the dignity of man, since the official language of countless promises and outbursts of rhetoric has been replaced by a sober and clear language in which sincerity replaces paternalism and demagogy.

In this situation, in which every citizen and each medium of expression state what they think, without restrictions, we have begun to live a political experience which has as its most legitimate expression the dialog between the government and the various sectors of the country aimed at the installation, at the appropriate time, of an authentic republican and pluralist democracy.

The main task of the government, which has now placed its emphasis on dialog and participation, also includes actions in various important areas. In this regard, foreign policy acquires a special nature. One of the points which stands out clearly is our country's participation in the international community as a result of the profound political, social and economic changes which have transformed Argentine society. In making even a brief summary of our work in this matter, we cannot avoid mentioning a few.

Regarding our relations with important world powers, which are noticeably in a state of stagnation, it is publicly known that a new and positive turn has taken place in this area as a result of the understanding of our position.

This turn is not the result of change or the exclusive consequence of a special world situation. On the contrary, we are viewing the result of an energetic and coherent policy which we have carried out without any hesitation, even in the face of a lack of understanding and obstacles of every kind, a policy which, without detracting from our Western convictions, protects our sovereignty and reaffirms the power of decision of the republic.

Without giving major details, I would like to point out this particular fact: In areas where a lack of communication prevailed and relations were clearly limited, smooth contacts have begun and already yielded positive results in the diplomatic and economic sectors.

In the regional sphere we are about to obtain results from a series of positive efforts toward the Latin American complementation and integration for which we have worked so hard. For the first time since the Cartagena agreement was signed, Argentina is asserting its effective presence in that group of countries in a clear demonstration of our growing continental influence.

The subject of human rights, which some sectors whose leanings are obvious have tried to use in order to discredit the country and insult its people, has been approached with absolute determination and responsibility. When doing so, we took as a starting point an undeniable truth: A hard and dramatic struggle which we had not sought and into which we were pushed by terrorist aggression had ended. That struggle and its inevitable consequences came from a decision by the Argentine Government and people to preserve their freedom and security, their traditions and the most sacred of rights: The right to live.

Consequently, and apart from what may occur in the various organizations where this question is dealt with, this country has nothing to explain and nothing to hide. There was a war which has now ended with the defeat of the aggressors in the military field, and it has been clearly shown that violence is not a valid political alternative in this country. Time, which does not stop or stumble, continues its progress, while truth sheds light on our course, and we can perceive the security which protects the Argentines.

The shared and supported effort of all Argentines has permitted the overcoming of the most serious crisis that the republic has ever suffered. Those who, confused by an unreal vision of this unprecedented incident in our history, intend to renew practices and methods that have definitely been overcome will be left out of the scenario of the great national decisions by the overwhelming force that this new instance of creativity and renewal has generated.

In sum, and as I have stated on other occasions, we received a prostrate country, and with the efforts of all we have put it on its feet. It was necessary to make it function, and today we can proudly say that the country is functioning. And on this path toward its objective, the process has no desire to exact payment for the errors committed by anyone. All of us, to some extent, are responsible for them. He who does not understand this may cast the first stone. And yet, the process will not allow a return to a past that sank us into chaos and violence, whether it be due to forgetfulness or to bad faith.

What, then, is our situation when referring to the exterior? It is evident that the Argentine Republic is not an island. The Argentine Republic is part of the community of nations. In other words, it is immersed in the modern world, a world in want because of the lack of food, energy, room and peace.

In the face of this thusly described world in want, Argentina has at its disposal important exportable raw materials in the food sector. Argentina is nearly self-sufficient in hydrocarbons, including some exportable stock, and it also has potential hydroelectric and nuclear energy reserves that insure sustained industrial development. Argentina has large spaces that have not yet been incorporated into the productive sector. But, above and beyond all of this, Argentina today has peace, a peace that was not imposed upon us, a peace that we achieved through the efforts of all Argentines, a peace that is based on our principles and values, a peace that should be lived.

But this wanting world that we have described has another characteristic: From a situation in which the forces were polarized it has passed into a situation of interdependence among nations, and in order that a nation be able to subsist in this state of interdependence it is necessary that it have the capability to negotiate.

In view of our strong internal and external situation, we can say that today our country has the power to negotiate. In other words, Argentina today has an identity within the community of nations, and within this community Argentina can act because it has the power to negotiate. Today Argentina is something, and it can act, as opposed to yesterday, when it was a nonentity and could not act.

But it must be made perfectly clear that the power to negotiate must under no circumstances be used to barter our sovereignty or to buy silence. Argentina has nothing to be silent about nor anything to hide: Argentina has its reality and its truth.

Argentina has experienced a war, a war that we did not seek or desire, a war that was imposed on us and which we accepted in order to secure our style of life. A vague war more than a dirty one, because it was vague in its beginning, which had no formal declaration; a war that was vague in its development because we had to fight an enemy which did not use a uniform or a flag; a war vague in its conclusion because even today after the military victory, we still have our doubts about whether it was concluded.

This war, as any other war, has left its traces: A painful quota of death, missing persons and prisoners, but it has also left some heroes and martyrs whose memory I want to honor today. This is why we say that we do not rejoice in the sorrow caused by this war, but we do feel proud, rightly proud, of our victory.

Let us now open the doors to the new stage: The creative stage. Thanks to our domestic and foreign strength, having retained our power intact thanks to the unity and cohesion of the armed forces, the process allows us, as the government in power, to call upon the citizenry for dialog; a dialog which we hope will be generous but responsible, not a mere conversation but a dialog aimed at outlining, among all of us, the country we desire; a dialog which should teach through sincerely admitted past mistakes, a dialog whose result can be nothing other than a compromise; in sum, a dialog through which we want to reassemble and reinstate our republican institutions by making a number of broad changes in the status quo we have inherited.

At this point of our country's life, we must all feel that we are the leading actors of this joint undertaking, since only thus shall we be able to attain national unity, a unity strengthened by a merger of values and principles and by accepting different ideas and opinions.

SAO PAULO METALLURGICAL WORKERS GO ON STRIKE

PY011710 Sao Paulo Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Apr 80 PY

[Excerpt] During a meeting with their employers last night, the metallurgical workers of Sao Paulo submitted their counteroffer of a 7-percent bonus for productivity and a 12-month job stability period. The employers rejected the counteroffer, and a strike has been in effect since 0000 today. The strike emcompasses the ABC region [Santo Andre, Sao Bernardo and Sao Caetanto] and 27 neighboring communities.

BRASPETRO SIGNS OIL DRILLLING CONTRACT WITH ANGOLA

PY020318 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Apr 80 p 33 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Mines and Energy Ministry sources reported yesterday that the Brazilian Petroleum Corporation [PETROBRAS] Branch for Overseas Operations [BRASPETRO] last weekend signed in Luanda a $120 million contract for prospecting and producing "offshore" oil in Angola jointly with Texaco, TOTAL (French) and SONANGOL. The sources added that the operation will yield a joint production of 30,000 to 40,000 barrels of oil daily by 1981 of the BTE type of from 27 to 31 degrees. Itamaraty will make an official announcement to this effect in the next few days. The sources added that the area of exploitation is located south of Cabinda, near the mouth of the Congo River, where Texaco has been drilling by itself since 1966. After the Angolan revolution 4 years ago, Texaco had to begin sharing with other oil companies. Yet, it will continue to retain most of the shares (40 percent) in this contract, while SONANGOL will have 25 percent and BRASPETRO and TOTAL will have 17.5 percent each.

Mines and Energy Ministry experts believe that BRASPETRO's participation in oil drilling in Angola has "great" political implications, since Brazil currently receives only 7,000 of the 20,000 barrels of oil daily agreed upon in the contract it signed last year with Angola. Furthermore, Brazil intends to intensify its sale of services to Angola and, to this end, the acquisition of oil will be of prime importance, they said.

According to these same sources, BRASPETRO's profits will be proportional to its participation in the investments, and associated enterprises will have to pay for these investments in 4 years. The contract with Angola goes into effect this week and will be in force for 20 years. Negotiations for the signing of similar contracts already are underway with other countries, since Brazil intends to diversify its sources of oil supply to reduce its dependence on Middle East countries, they added.

DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE STRESSED

PY260059 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 25 Mar 80 PY

[Text] An agreement signed today at Planalto Palace between the Mines and Energy and the Sao Paulo state government will give continuity to the production of uranium hexafluoride in the country with Brazilian technology.

For Gen Danilo Venturini, chief of the military household, the agreement marks another stage in the effort toward controlling nuclear energy. [Begin Venturini recording] This agreement aimed at producing uranium hexafluoride--which is essential for developing the fuel cycle--is in keeping with an effort that is already underway.

The agreement signed here today is earmarked for the installation of a second pilot plant--of medium size--which will certainly mark another stage in the effort we are making to harness nuclear energy. [end recording]

Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals also emphasized the significance of the agreement. [Begin Cals recording] The agreement we are signing here is in keeping with the energy policy adopted by President Figueiredo, who has given directives to seek both energy and technological independence. Thus, we are also seeking transfer of technology and development of national technology in every aspect of energy production. [end recording]

Sao Paulo Governor Paulo Salim Maluf said that national technology is the most important aspect of nuclear energy. [begin Maluf recording] This process is 100-percent Brazilian, that is, it has been undertaken by Brazilian engineers and scientists with Brazilian-made equipment and represents Brazilian independence in this sector. On the one hand, we will not have to pay royalties or buy technology from foreign countries; and on the other, we are honoring Brazilian scientists, many of whom graduated from the University of Sao Paulo. [end recording]

BRIEFS

NEW OIL DISCOVERY--Rio de Janeiro, 1 Apr (AFP)--The Brazilian Petroleum Corporation (PETROBRAS) announced here today the discovery of a new oil deposit in Amapa, in the north. A spokesman for the corporation said that the first samples of oil were extracted at 4,466 meters below ground level. Technicians will continue investigations to determine whether its commerical exploitation is feasible. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1607 GMT 1 Apr 80 PY]

MINERAL DEPOSITS DISCOVERED--Brasilia--The Mines and Energy Ministry announced today that one of the most promising mineral deposits in the world has been discovered in the Carajas mountain range, Para State. It has been estimated that there is a copper reserve of 500 million tons, together with zinc and gold. The ministry reported that with this discovery Brazil will become self-sufficient in minerals within 5 years. [Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY]

PINOCHET RECEIVES LETTER FROM PHILIPPINES' MARCOS

FY020111 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Apr 80 FY

[(Graciela Contreras) report from Diego Portales building]

[Excerpt] The presidential press secretariat has just officially reported that Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames and Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Gen Enrique Valdes today held a 30-minute meeting with President Pinochet. At the meeting, Pinochet received the letter that Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos sent to him through Ambassador Eduardo Romualdez. The president will study the letter, and once a decision is made the public will be informed through an official communique.

Maintenance of Relations Likely

FY011551 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0740 GMT 1 Apr 80 FY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 1 Apr (LATIN)--Foreign Relations Minister Rene Rojas stated today that everything seems to indicate that Chile and the Philippines will maintain their diplomatic relations without changes.

A few hours before meeting with Philippine Envoy Eduardo Romualdez in his office, Minister Rojas told a group of journalists that "this event could have a happy ending."

Rojas told the journalists that the breaking of diplomatic relations between the two countries is still being considered by the chief of state. General Pinochet has stated that he will forget about breaking relations if the explanations offered are satisfactory.

Foreign Minister Rojas also told the journalists that the Chilean political and economic opening towards the Pacific would continue to be carried out in accordance with a pragmatic, dynamic and imaginative foreign policy. He said that Chile has a geographical imperative which moves it to seek rapprochement with the nations of the Pacific. He described these nations as interesting from the commercial and political point of view.

During his meeting with the press media, Rojas said that he is willing to conduct a foreign policy aimed at full rapprochement with other nations. He stated: "I do not believe in Chile's isolation, although many centers of power would like it to be a reality. But nowadays even the world powers are being criticized. You can see what has happened in Afghanistan and other places."

BRIEFS

INFLATION RATE--Santiago, Chile, 1 Apr (AFP)--The National Statistics Institute (INE) has reported that the rate of inflation during the first 3 months of the year reached 7.1 percent. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1630 GMT 1 Apr 80 FY]

INTERNATIONAL RESERVES RECORD--According to a report in the economic-financial survey newsletter based on figures issued by the Chilean Central Bank, Chile's international reserves amounted to the record figure of $3,102,000,000 in the month of February. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Mar 80 FY]

TRADE WITH PHILIPPINES, JAPAN--It has been reported that trade between Chile and the Philippines has experienced a significant increase since 1973. In that year it amounted to only $14,000, while currently it is approximately $4.5 million. The same has happened with the trade between Chile and Japan. From a yearly trade of $250 million in 1973 it has increased to $743 million and favors Chile by $97 million. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Mar 80 FY]

REPORTAGE ON DOMINICAN EMBASSY NEGOTIATIONS

Eighth Round Ends

PA011713 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1633 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 1 Apr (EFE)--The eighth round of talks held between the 19 April Movement (M-19) and the Colombian Government to find a solution to the Dominican Embassy issue in Bogota lasted 1 hour and 55 minutes.

As the seventh meeting, today's talks adjourned with a cordial handshake between the official negotiators, Ramiro Zambrano and Camilo Jimenez, the hooded M-19 female guerrilla and Mexican Ambassador Ricardo Galan.

As it was learned, this new meeting was held in a rather cordial atmosphere although it seems that the guerrillas occupying the embassy are sticking to their demands.

The M-19 still demands the release of 28 well-known political prisoners plus $50 million. In turn the government continues to refuse to grant those demands.

In any event, sources close to the negotiators and the Colombian Foreign Ministry believe that all the nondiplomatic hostages will be released maybe today or sometime later this week.

Government Communique

PA020047 Paris AFP in Spanish 0015 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 1 Apr (AFP)--No noticeable progress was achieved today after the eighth dialog between the government and leftists who are occupying the Dominican Embassy. This was the general impression after reading the official communique on the talks.

The presidential palace bulletin stressed that the government representatives gave the 19 April Movement (M-19) representative a memorandum which summarizes the proposals the government has made during the past two meetings. The bulletin concluded by pointing out that the memorandum will be studied by the embassy occupiers, who will give their reply in the next meeting, the date and time of which were not mentioned by the bulletin.

The full text of the communique, the 20th to be issued since the seizure of the hostages on 27 February and released 7 hours after today's dialog ended, is as follows:

The Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic reports that the eighth meeting between government representatives Drs Camilo Jimenez and Ramiro Zambrano and the spokeswoman of the subversive M-19 group and Mexican Ambassador Ricardo Galan was held today. The meeting lasted 1 hour and 55 minutes.

After general considerations in which those attending participated, the government representatives turned over to the delegate of the embassy occupiers a written summary which contains the proposals the government has made in the past 2 meetings.

As must be assumed, the memorandum turned over by Drs Jimenez and Zambrano will be examined and analyzed by the occupiers of the Dominican Embassy who will give their reply at the next meeting.

Next Talks 2 Apr

PA020058 Paris AFP in Spanish 0040 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 1 Apr (AFP)--It was reported at the presidential palace tonight that the ninth talks between the government and the leftists occupying the Dominican Embassy here will take place tomorrow at 2000 GMT.

M-19 HAS NO PLANS TO MARK ANNIVERSARY IN EMBASSY

PA012144 Paris AFP in Spanish 1556 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 1 Apr (AFP)--The 10 April guerrilla movement [M-19] members who have held 27 persons hostage in the Dominican Republic Embassy here for the past 35 days said today they do not expect to commemorate their anniversary on 19 April in the embassy.

Commander Tres, who spoke with what sounded like an Argentine or Uruguayan accent, said this in an interview granted jointly with Commander Uno to EL ESPECTADOR. The guerrilla, who refused to reveal his identity or much less his country of origin, said, "We are Colombians," and declared that he is a full-time professional revolutionary.

The third in command said they do not expect to be in the embassy on 19 April when the M-19 commemorates its 10th anniversary.

[Question] What have you prepared for 19 April?

[Answer] We don't expect to be here then, but we will be if necessary. We are preparing to celebrate here.

Commander Tres also said that the crisis could be solved within 3 weeks and ruled out the possibility of individual negotiations between the M-19 and any one country to free the ambassadors.

Commander Tres announced that shortly before Holy Thursday other hostages will be freed, but refused to reveal their names, though he admitted that they plan to release all Colombians.

Questioned about the number of ambassadors they plan to take with them when leaving for asylum, he answered, "more than five, although we were planning to leave with 19 since this number identifies our organization."

He stated that for them it is an honor that Comdr Fidel Castro has invited them to Cuba, but he explained that they need not go there for the time being. "I believe that in Cuba we would have the opportunity to get acquainted with a social and political process."

Commander Tres said they have not yet decided which country they would go to or how long they will remain in the embassy here.

BRIEFS

GASOLINE, OIL IMPORTS--The Colombian Foreign Trade Institute has reported that last year Colombia imported $390 million in gasoline and $227 million in crude oil. This made up 12 percent of our imports. This year these imports represent only 6 percent of the total because of the increased production in the new Barrancabermeja refinery. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Mar 80 PA]

VIOLENCE REPORTED AT CFP OFFICE, BUCARAM'S HOUSE

PA011857 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Regarding the conflict within the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP], serious incidents have occurred in Guayaquil. Groups of Roldos and Bucaram supporters confronted each other with bullets. We have late reports by our reporter Bernardo Morales.

[Begin Morales recording] A 40-year old woman identified as Rosa Maria Fernandez Remache is near death at the general hospital as a result of the shootout by government supporters described as Roldosists who fired indiscriminately at the CFP headquarters while a caravan of cars circled the place as a demonstration of support for the president of the republic.

The incident occurred at about 1900 between Boyaca and Sucre streets when the victim, who works as a maid in that sector, had gone out on an errand accompanied by her 4-year old son, Luis Alfredo Fernandez Fernandez, who is miraculously alive. Mrs Fernandez Remache was wounded by a bullet which hit her abdomen. She was immediately helped by neighbors who took her to the hospital. She underwent a delicate operation but is in very serious condition.

The venicles that participated in the demonstration gathered at the Forest Park late in the afternoon where the caravan started. The caravan was headed by two patrolmen of the Guayas Traffic Commission and it was attended by very few people. The vehicles went from Quito Street to Velez Street then went on to Lorenzo de Garaicoa, Porto de la Octubre, Pichincha, 10 August, Balcon, Alejo Alascano, General Cordobas and 9 October. It continued to Boyaca to the south going by the CFP headquarters between Sucre and Colon streets where the shootout occurred.

Later, several of the vehicles which participated in this demonstration went by the home of CFP leader Asaad Bucaram, between Riobamba and Urdaneta streets, where neighbors responded to the shouts with stones. The Roldosists replied by firing their weapons, but there were no casualties. The demonstrators gathered at the Roldos headquarters, located between the Cordoba and Pentiburo streets, where the leaders met behind closed doors. [end recording]

Bucaram Blames Roldos

PA011859 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Quayaquil--Asaad Bucaram, president of the Chamber of Representatives and top leader of the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP], has rejected the repressive measures that the government has implemented against CFP leaders as well as the attack against the CFP headquarters, located on Boyaca Street between Sucre and Colon streets.

The top CFP leader was specifically referring to the arrest of Rafael Vivas de la Cadena, deputy director of the party and acting president of the Guayas Provincial Council, and the persecution of Nelson Franco Piedra, vice president of the regional CFP organization. Bucaram stressed that this was the payment that the CFP is getting for bringing Roldos to power.

In commenting on these actions, Bucaram said: This is the democracy of the little doctor [doctorcito] Roldos, who not only ordered Vivas de la Cadena's arrest but allowed it to be carried out without any warrant. He also condemned the attack against his party headquarters, which resulted in the wounding of a woman, adding that there were no persons at the CFP headquarters when this occurred.

Bucaram said that the demonstrators were drivers who had been hired for the occasion and paid with the money of the people, the state's funds. He said that these individuals attacked the CFP headquarters yelling slogans against the party and the people stoned them because of this. He said that something similar happened near his home where Roldosists replied with bullets.

According to the CFP leader, the worst thing is that this demonstration was headed by two vehicles of the Guayas Traffic Commission, which reiterates that this is the kind of democracy of the little doctor Roldos who considers himself an honest man, the most honest man in Ecuador.

In referring to Government Minister Carlos Feraud Blum, Bucaram said that it was proven that the buses used for the demonstration are the only CFP rank and file that the president has [as heard], which constitutes a vigorous rejection to Feraud Blum's newly mounted farce.

MINISTERS REITERATE DENIAL TO CUBAN PETITION

PA282105 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Mar 80 PA

[Communique issued by the foreign, defense and national resources and energy ministers of Ecuador on 28 March in Quito]

[By Raul Zambrano]

[Text] In view of the unfounded rumors that are circulating regarding the possibility of the Ecuadorean Government granting permission to the Cuban fishing fleet to open an operational center in Ecuadorean ports, a possibility which was already categorically denied yesterday in a communique issued by the Foreign Ministry, the ministers of foreign relations, national defense and national resources and energy state:

1. At no time has the Ecuadorean Government reached any agreement, nor held talks or drafted any type of agreement of this type.

2. The Ecuadorean authorities through a high Foreign Ministry official informed the Cuban ambassador that a request to open an operational center had been denied.

3. The Cuban fishing boats which have stopped in the port of Guayaquil have done so according to Ecuadorean laws.

4. It is indeed regrettable that this matter, which the Foreign Ministry has already denied in a communique issued yesterday, has been given an importance it does not deserve and that some sectors have used it to try to damage the political image of the constitutional government of the republic.

[Signed] Alfredo Pareja Diezcanseco, foreign minister; Gen Marco Subia Martinez, national defense minister; and Jose Corsino Cardenas, national resources and energy minister.

BRIEFS

OIL EXPORTS--The Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation [CEPE] exported over 1 million barrels of fuel oil worth $39 million during the first 2 months of this year. This represents an increase of nearly 200,000 barrels and additional revenues amounting to $19 million, as compared to the same period last year. The state-owned oil refinery at Esmeraldas provided 65 percent of the volume sold. The rest came from the refinery at La Libertad and the Shell refinery in Curacao. The latter is part of a contract for the processing of crude oil between Shell and CEPE. [Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Mar 80 PA]

ROYO ADDRESSES ASSEMBLY ON TREATIES, ECONOMY

PA020249 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1608 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Panamanian President Aristides Royo's speech at a special session of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives called to appoint members of the Electoral Tribunal, held in the Justo Arosemena Palace on 1 April--live]

[Excerpts] Mr President of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, Hon Dr Blas Celis, Mr Vice President of the Republic Ricardo de la Espriella, vice presidents of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, ministers of state and directors of autonomous institutions, members of the diplomatic corps, public officials, honorable representatives:

In the exercise of a constitutional right, the executive branch has called the honorable National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives into special session for the primary purpose of electing an Electoral Tribunal magistrate and his alternate, in accordance with Article No 126 of the Constitution.

Upon completion of the period in office of the magistrates appointed in 1973, the judicial and executive branches have nominated new magistrates, and now it is the responsibility of this honorable assembly to proceed in confirming them.

I am--and you know this well--a jealous defender of the autonomy of the various branches that comprise public power, so I could hardly pretend to influence the decisions adopted by this house. I only ask of you--more as a citizen than as president--that you act in accordance with the mandate dictated by your consciences and that you choose the person who can best carry out the important tasks inherent to a member of the Electoral Tribunal.

It is unnecessary for me to point out the responsibilities of the Electoral Tribunal, which go beyond the organization of elections--in this specific case, the election for legislators this year--and for representatives, legislators and president and vice president of the republic in 1984. These responsibilities have been clearly established in the Constitution. For this reason, my exhortation is only that you carefully analyze the achievements, activities and qualities of those submitting their names for election to this assembly, and that you elect the person who for the next 7 years will fulfill important and delicate tasks.

Rest assured that the executive branch is not sponsoring any candidate and that the designation of the Electoral Tribunal magistrate and his alternate will depend exclusively on your consciences. As is already known, developments have been taking place in all countries, ours included, which affect the situation and prospects for Panama's development. This suggests that we should once again responsibly analyze our country's present and immediate future in order to provide a suitable basis for the new decisions that the corresponding government organs will have to make.

No Panamanian ignores the fact that our country, just like the other countries in Latin America and the rest of the world, is going through a period of considerable economic difficulty. The situation generated by inflation-recession, the devaluation of the dollar, the disorder currently prevalent in the international monetary system, the costly arms race in which the great powers are engaged, the energy crisis and the exaggerated increase of bank interest rates is being felt in the international arena. These phenomena are hitting even the more industrialized nations.

In the case of underdeveloped countries, this situation is aggravated by the continued injustice of the terms of exchange of our trade with the developed countries.

As a result of this, our exports lose in relative value in the face of the constant rise in the cost of the technology and the industrial products we must import.

The revolutionary process begun in 1968 gave a timely historical turnabout to the country's evolution, saving it from the dangers presaged by the state of things at the time and eliminating the most serious factors of dependence and social injustice currently affecting the country.

This process gave priority to a new government system with a completely popular structure, representative of the country's entire social geography, which advocates the recovery of the country's entire social geography, which advocates the recovery of the national resources and a structural cleaning-up of the economy. The new system has established a policy of popular consultation at all levels, as well as the principle of recognizing the equal value and capacity of all Panamanians, and has provided the institutional means to exercise them through a broad set of instruments of dialog ranging from the communal and local juntas to the National Assembly of Representatives.

This new style of government has sought a just, democratic and national transformation of the country's realities as a function of its integral development for the benefit of all of the country's sectors, while seeking to introduce the necessary changes at the smallest social cost possible. It has sought to increase the country's productive capacity, to achieve a more just distribution of income, and to multiply the coverage of social security, education, health and popular culture. It has increased the road network several times over, has laid the groundwork for other projects and has undertaken the protection and stimulus of Panamanian productive enterprises by creating and stimulating state and mixed enterprises, the organization of peasant settlements and cooperatives and the construction of energy and industrial complexes. It has also proceeded to recover our territory and natural resources while promoting an international policy of effective affirmation of our independence and sovereignty, of free self-determination for all peoples, of nonalinement, friendship with all countries, and the peaceful solution of international conflicts.

But the most difficult and significant achievement of all these years was the total and definitive elimination of the 1903 treaty, under which our fatherland was cut open and we were deprived of the right to take advantage of our principal natural resource [as heard] in order to achieve the integral development of the entire nation.

The achievements of the complex process of negotiation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties were the result of the mobilization of national unity around the most important of our demands with the solidarity and support of all peoples in the world. The new treaties still do not satisfy all our legitimate national aspirations but they represent the maximum accomplishment possible for the dignity of a small country negotiating to recover a coveted strategic resource from the hands of the world's mightiest power.

The work carried out by the revolutionary process has prevented our country from falling into the situation that others are regretfully suffering through right now. Throughout these past 11 years, investments have been made in the areas of infrastructure and development and for the solution of our most serious social problems, which today have made possible a much more balanced national (?situation) with fewer social problems.

Nonetheless, those investments had to be financed through a timely use of the country's credit capacity. In order to do this, it was necessary to increase the country's foreign debt. Had it not been done that way, the current inflationary phenomenon would be forcing us to pay a price several times higher for much smaller investments than we have already completed. As a result of this, the rate of new foreign debts is lower than that affecting other countries trying to speed up their development because, under current circumstances, the same credit and the same work has become many times costlier. Nevertheless, our country's needs have not yet been met.

The great tasks that the revolutionary process must carry out on behalf of our fatherland's integral development and independence have not been concluded either. Owners now of their past conquests and grown larger in the face of their current difficulties, the Panamanian people are demanding new independence and development goals.

A new stage in our country's history has begun, characterized among other things by the implementation of the process of recovery of the so-called Canal Zone and of the decolonization calendar, by the need to overcome the evils of dependence and underdevelopment, by the just and increasing demands of the popular sectors and of national businessmen interested in development, by the reactivation of parties within the framework of the country's political life, and by the need to prevent the national progress from becoming hindered or distorted by new difficultires or by those seeking to retread old paths, without the authorization of the popular will.

He realize these new goals are not easily achieved, but those are the tasks our people are demanding and it is our duty to confront them boldly and bravely. To this effect, the revolutionary process itself has already created the instruments needed to make the nation's various sectors join in this great effort. To this end, we must be able to answer two questions. Where are we headed and what is the general course of the process now. In order to answer them, we will first discuss the most fundamental aspects of the national development strategy, then the political decisions we must make in the face of our people's most pressing problems.

The benefits of development must rapidly and equitably reach all of the country's social sectors and regions with the least tension and at the lowest social cost possible, in accordance with each ones' efforts and contributions to progress and the people's general well-being. All sectors jointly intent on achieving the national objectives must participate in the conduct of this process of changes.

This is why all we Panamanians must have suitable means of organizing and expressing ourselves in order to explain the needs and aspirations of those sectors to which we belong, represent our respective communities in the making of decisions and participate in the solution of common problems and in the national development tasks. This means specifically that we will continue to strengthen the system of communal and local representation and develop the role of the local and communal juntas--as the pillars of Panamanian democracy that they are--and that the state must provide support for all forms of popular organization and help identify and resolve their most pressing demands. [applause]

Only a general development strategy such as the one we have summarized above can solve the problems of underemployment, production and growing social needs in a coherent and lasting manner. However, the maintenance of a bold development policy which confronts adverse situations demands fundamental decisions that will be implemented with great confidence and determination to correct the evils which affect the economy. This must be done even at the price of occasionally having to affect some existing sectors in order to benefit the great national majorities and the country's development.

We would like to govern in such a way that all decisions will always equally please the aspirations of all sectors. However, we know that when one tries to struggle for the independence and overall development of the country, sometimes one can't avoid changing specific structures and affecting certain interests or privileges which obstruct the nation's general development. In such a case, one must have the strength to make the decision that the case demands even at the price of angering a few to improve the situation of many because we are governing on behalf of the higher interests of the entire nation and not on behalf of a few pressure centers.

The continuity of the country's development demands fundamental decisions and determination to protect and encourage the producers, whether small or large, in order to achieve a better distribution of wealth, implement just policies in the fields of prices, wages, employment, consumer protection and in general increase economic, social and cultural development within a strategy that covers the whole nation, particularly the neediest majorities. This must occur within a modern, integral and efficient concept of the meaning of national development. One needs to have a little bit of patriotism and honesty to understand this. We will act with the necessary firmness to fulfill this.

In order to be consistent with this policy, we must give the entire government the necessary determination so that the administration will be more dynamic and decisive and more in line with the realities and demands of the fundamental sectors of production and the neediest social sectors. One cannot govern only with the support of the businessmen just as one cannot govern only with the support of the workers. Real unity must be achieved as a way to advance through the joint participation of all forces which support the development of the process.

However, we would not like it to be understood that the aforementioned reforms consist solely of specific changes in public administration and in some transfers of officials, as indeed might occur. These formal aspects are not the important thing. What is important is the change of attitude in the administration as a specific expression of the political orientation of our government defined by the fact that the raison d'etre of the revolutionary process is to correct the evils that affect our society through the necessary changes to improve the living conditions of the large majorities. [applause]

The revolutionary government has made an unwritten guarantee to government workers to insure stability. The days when ministerial changes meant uncertainty and sorrow for government workers at all levels are long gone. The revolutionary process has changed such practices and we believe we have reached the extreme opposite. Therefore, I will demand honesty and loyalty toward this process from public servants. [applause] I invite the community and particularly the honorable representatives to denounce those who use bureaucratic positions for their own benefit [applause] or those who use those positions to undermine the structure and operation of the government. [applause]

We will give greater importance and depth to the programs to confront unemployment. These programs must seek great stability and lasting effects. Therefore, they should be linked to productive or development projects and consider both social problems and the need to strengthen the national economy.

Now then, this responsibility does not belong exclusively to the state. It also belongs to the private sector that must jointly participate in finding solutions. Some people and groups remember the government's responsibilities when they demand protection, support, exemptions, greater profits or privileges but they are not present when it comes to sharing the burdens brought about by the international economic situation, investing and producing in favor of the national development or solving social problems. The current economic situation has an effect on all Panamanians. Its effects should not fall solely on the workers or consumers. They must be distributed among everyone. Those who have more resources are precisely the ones who should contribute more to the solution of the problem and the most underprivileged should be the least harmed. [applause]

In mid-1980 we will be able to make a decision on beginning work for the exploitation of the Cerro Colorado mine. This huge project will provide approximately 7,500 jobs in the production phase and require an investment of several hundred million balboas which will generate a countless number of economic activities, investments and complementary jobs.

It will open some 10,000 new positions and will produce direct and indirect benefits worth hundreds of millions of balboas a year. All of this will produce an important center of development in that region with ramifications in several other areas of the country, special consequences for the diversification of the national economic structure, the creation of other great investment opportunities, production of revenue, creation of a huge source of foreign exchange and numerous indirect contributions to the improvement of the level and quality of life of the Panamanians.

As a result of the exhaustive studies which have delayed its initiation, the Cerro Colorado project includes the strict measures for protecting the environment on the one hand and on the other hand a group of details that guarantee maximum caution to reduce the financial risks and guarantee the highest economic benefits for our country.

We wish to remind you that our country is being seriously harmed by the extraordinary increase in the price of oil and its byproducts. If not for the large-scale, timely projects for the exploitation of our hydraulic resources, this phenomenon would already have had a ruinous impact on our economy. The hydroelectric projects have allowed us to drastically reduce oil imports, but that product has already reached such high prices that the present level of imports accounts for some 15 percent of the total value of our exports.

However, Panama has great developmental possibilities in the area of electricity and other alternative sources of energy. As another large step in our energy development, we will soon begin construction of the Teribe-Changuinola hydroelectric project which will have great significance to the national economy, as have the other great investments we have made in this regard. This will increase our capacity to replace imports of fuels.

Another way of replacing the costly oil imports is the local production of high-yield renewable fuels. This is the case of anhydrous alcohol, in the first phase, and of hydrated alcohol later, as a fuel to replace gasoline. In this regard, we have considered the capacity of the local sugar industry, which is still not using 30 percent of its grinding capacity, and which has enough land available to plant sugarcane for use in the production of alcohol. There are plans to initiate this program with the installation of two refineries, each of which will have a production capacity of 240,000 liters a day.

Despite everything, the energy problem will continue to be a burden to our country and it is necessary to take other preparatory measures. We must educate people for development, improve transportation which uses diesel and electricity and make it more fuel-efficent, replace gas and gasoline in cooking, which will help to mitigate the effect of the increases of oil prices on our people.

To this end, the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification [IRHE] will be assigned the mission of coordinating the various aspects of the national energy policy.

Each of the new projects that I have just mentioned as examples of government action represent, on the one hand, the promotion of a great number of new jobs, and on the other hand, the opening of fields of activity which will have a great effect on stimulating the economy in other areas. These are significant examples of major investments and solutions to the employment problem in areas of great productivity, and represent strong direct support for production and large savings of revenue.

A topic of controversy in recent times has been Law 95 of 1976 which modified the labor code.

If we failed to reach a decision in this regard before, it was because an exhaustive process of consultation with the various sectors involved was necessary. After an intensive effort, the committees representing the workers and the businessmen, established at the initiative of the government and with the participation of the labor commission of the national legislation council, reached an agreement that will permit the repeal of law 95 and the preparation of draft legislation to replace it [applause] in terms negotiated upon and considered appropriate by both sides.

In compliance with legal provisions and with the intent of providing all procedural guarantees within the administration of labor justice, effective in January 1981, the labor appeals section of the Supreme Court of Justice will become functional. Its mission will be to ensure strict observance of labor laws and to standardize national labor jurisprudence.

We also wish to inform the Panamanian taxpayers that we will not establish new taxes or increase those that already exist. [applause] However, the government will continue efforts to improve the fiscal, taxpaying, financial and administrative policy as behooves a country that is struggling for overall development, a country in which the wealthier sectors should contribute to the national effort in a greater proportion than the poorer sectors, rather than the reverse.

Another problem that is still of concern to the Panamanian family is the education of our children. Some time ago, the educational reform program was totally and definitely revoked, a decision which we accept and which we will continue to enforce in all its parts and aspects. However, there is still no available school program that totally replaces the programs and study plans that are presently in force, because of the intransigence and inflexibility manifested within the educational coordinating committee established for this purpose. We seek the formulation of plans and programs that are capable of providing education that is good, modern and with an adequate foundation from the scientific and pedagogic viewpoints and which is structured with a sense of responsibility by good technicians who are proficient in this delicate area.

Unfortunately, persons who are overmotivated by political sectarianism wish to impose political formulas in this area without seeking a balanced solution to the problem based on truly pedagogic and technical aspects.

The education of our children should not be exposed to partisan manipulation or to the intolerance of certain pressure groups. We appeal to the sense of responsibility and the maturity of all sectors and groups involved in order that on 28 April, Panamanian families will be able to send their children to school in peace without any alteration of the normal resumption of the school year, which they need so badly. [applause]

One of the most serious problems affecting our republic continues to be the national recovery of the former Canal Zone, the strict observance of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and the correct interpretation of the same. In recent months, we denounced several irregularities and omissions in fulfilling what was agreed upon, and we have reiterated that our people and government will not tolerate any type of actions or omissions which might violate the spirit or the law of those pacts [applause] or of the program of the decolonization and recovery of the most sacred heritage of our fatherland.

Briefly, the present state of our relations with the United States of America, as regards fulfillment of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, is characterized by the following: As will be recalled, the U.S. Congress delayed until the last minute approval of the law to implement the treaties from their side and that law, as we said on 9 March in a letter to President Carter, introduces numerous and important violations into the treaties to the detriment of the legitimate and clear interests and rights of the Republic of Panama. The designation of the U.S. members of the Panama Canal Commission board was delayed almost 5 months. The approval of the U.S. and Panamanian members of that board is being delayed for an extreme length of time by the U.S. Senate. But meanwhile, the Defense Department and the Department of the Army of the United States have taken on the task of directing the Panama Canal Commission on their own, unilaterally and without the least participation by Panama. In this manner, they have determined policies and made the most important decisions of that commission.

On principle, we cannot accept the validity of policies or decisions reached in this manner. It could even be said that this way of acting reflects an apparently deliberate plan whereby the solutions and actions of the U.S. President and Congress distort, in practice, the spirit and the law of the canal treaties in a manner which is detrimental to Panama and the Panamanians.

We will spare no efforts, no matter how difficult or risky these may be, to defend ourselves and to achieve a most efficient observance of these pacts. We hereby announce this here and now, in a public manner, so that those who should listen to this, hear it well. Therefore, let it be known that now that the struggle for achieving a new treaty is over, we have now begun the stage of the final struggle for the affirmation of the Panamanian rights. We will do this in any way we might have to resort to and at any place we might have to go to. [applause]

Before concluding, I would like to tell you about our trip to Japan although the news media have already reported on it. In the first place, this Third World power expressed its interest in the drafting of a study that would determine the feasibility of a future sea-level canal. The Panamanians would be the main ones to participate in it. It would be financed by several countries which are interested in it because they use the canal.

From our visit we established--for the first time in the history of our relations with Japan which are more than 40 years old--the cooperation and assistance of that country to Panama. This resulted, during this first stage, in a $2 million donation to the Panamanian Cancer Institute, which is struggling very hard to fight cancer, approximately $2 million in support to educational television by sending experts, granting scholarships and donating equipment, studies on urban transportation in the metropolitan area, marine resources and metal and mining research and a technical training and productivity program, aspects in which Japan is the world's leader.

Regarding the cultural and sports areas, Japan will send experts and equipment worth approximately $250,000. However, the main accomplishments were: bringing the ties between the two countries closer, attracting the interest of the Japanese private sector to invest in Panama and enjoying the hospitality of the Japanese people who showed great affection for our people.

Honorable representatives, 18 months ago I promised before this same assembly to faithfully comply with the Constitution and the laws of the republic. Now, I want to reiterate that I will be loyal and zealous in fulfilling that oath which I made before you and the fatherland. For this reason, I will reject any attempt, overt or covert, to alter the Constitution of the republic through ways which are not contemplated in it. [applause]

This government gives the fullest guarantee of an exemplary, free and democratic electoral process to those seeking power through democratic, legal and constitutional paths. With this clear position and goal in mind, the August and the 1984 elections will be carefully organized and carried out in order to guarantee the most efficient voting procedure and the most legitimate and honest voting results. For this reason, we want to urge the honorable legislators to promptly approve the law which regulates the upcoming electoral process and show, once more, that they are willing to comply with the Constitution.

Dear compatriots and honorable representatives, the rights and the duties of our system can only be exercised if dialog and understanding prevail, if freedom is respected, if offenses of other governments are rejected with dignity and if the vocation for work is converted into a daily and permanent attitude. If these concepts are clearly understood by all of us, then we can say that we are working to reach the desired goals of independence, peace, justice and development.

Thank you. [applause]

EL SALVADOR

CRM LINKS U.S. ENVOY WITH ANTILEFT CAMPAIGN

PA011502 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Telephone report by Radio Sandino special correspondent Vicente Vaca from San Salvador--live]

[Text] Shortly before noon yesterday, the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses [CRM] held a news conference which was attended by all the foreign newsmen in El Salvador. The CRM announced the measures it will adopt after having analyzed the events which took place on Sunday and the communique issued by the Salvadoran Government junta. You will now hear Saul Villalta, member of the CRM, as he announced these measures.

[Begin Villalta recording] First, we want to let it be clearly established that this has been another provocation for our people to act in a hasty manner. The CRM will not fall into this trap.

We want to charge that a campaign has been launched ever since the new U.S. ambassador arrived in El Salvador which seeks to ruin the reputation of the leftist organizations.

Ever since Robert White arrived in El Salvador, the leftists were blamed for the assassination of Monsignor Romero and, yesterday, it was said that the CRM was to be blamed for the slaughter of our people by the repressive forces. Let us closely observe this situation, as it is part of the policy of slaughtering our people. However, from the time the U.S. ambassador arrived, these actions have started to discredit the CRM as well as all the leftists.

In view of this situation, in view of the massacre of our people by the repressive forces yesterday, the CRM has adopted the following decisions:

1. Certain activities will be taking place within the next few days, which will attempt to make certain denunciations. The CRM will call on the people to join these activities.

2. The CRM has decided to ask the democratic and progressive countries of the world, including the Vatican, to break diplomatic and other relations with the counterrevolutionary government junta. [applause]

3. The CRM will request that workers throughout the world boycott the shipments of weapons and other aid being sent to the counterrevolutionary government junta. [applause]

4. The CRM will request the U.S. labor unions and popular organizations to pressure their government in order to stop economic and military aid to the counterrevolutionary government junta. [applause]

5. The CRM will request the peoples of Venezuela and Puerto Rico to pressure their respective governments so they will not be used by the imperialists to militarily intervene in our country. [applause]

6. The CRM requests that the church dignitaries who were present at Monsignor Romero's funeral accompany us to the funeral of our companeros killed yesterday so that we will have a guarantee that we will not be attacked during this funeral. [applause]

We are making this request because, as we all know, the burial of our companeros killed by the military dictatorship is not allowed. We have all been witnesses of how companeros have had to be buried in the church of El Rosario or the cathedral because the burial of the murdered companeros is not allowed. That is why we ask the prelates to accompany us. We await their reply. [end recording]

FPL LEADER SAYS U.S. BUILDING HELICOPTER BASES

PA271523 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Mar 80 PA

[Text] In a message aired early today, Salvador Cayetano, top leader of the Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL], said that the United States is building several helicopter bases in Salvadoran territory. He added that one of the bases is being installed across the Gulf of Fonseca from Nicaragua. In his message, the FPL leader reiterated that Salvadoran revolutionary unity is stronger, affirming that the force of the people will succeed. He urged all the democratic forces in the world to put a stop to U.S. imperialist intervention in his country.

ARTICLE ON APPOINTMENT OF U.S. ENVOY CONTINUES

PA252020 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 24 Mar 80 pp 13, 29 PA

[Continuation of article by Rafael Hasbun, untitled]

[Text] Question No 6 and its answer in the exchange of viewpoints between Senator Helms and Ambassador White are really important in establishing the "philosophy" being followed here by the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] with regard to free enterprise.

6. Helms: "As you obviously believe that the U.S. Government should support the reform programs of the Salvadoran Government, do you believe that the United States should try to persuade the Salvadoran Government to direct those programs toward greater economic freedom?"

White: "The U.S. Government has clearly expressed its support for the present government of El Salvador and it believes that a properly conceived plan of reforms could help to move El Salvador toward social and economic justice. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DETERMINING THE PRECISE DEGREE OF ECONOMIC LIBERALIZATION CLEARLY RESTS WITH THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT. We will make recommendations, supporting certain programs only after studying the situation and considering the advice of experts in the field."

From the 15 October insurrection to the present, there have been practically three government juntas. The young military officers exercised the right to insurrection established under Article 7 of the 1962 Constitution. They issued a proclamation and in order to remain within the constitutional framework, they sought a civilian government. The first government junta was practically pluralistic and although the Cabinet showed a notorious predominance of Christian Democrats, the Jesuits and the Pax Romana, there were also moderate members of the Salvadoran Communist Party and one member of the free enterprise sector was permitted.

When the first junta was disbanded to be replaced by the second, the most outstanding request was to eliminate the private sector, as if this country's economy had not been built by it.

Preference was given to the antibusiness arguments, which have practically become dogma, and to specters with different names--oligarchy, rightwing--which run through the popular mind.

Some 60 percent of the country's population is illiterate. Cuba was not afraid of educating the people and embarked upon a vast program which managed to eradicate illiteracy. However, the three juntas have retained the programs of former regimes in the area of illiteracy, and its members have not reacted against the elimination of ethics as a subject in school. The entirecountry seems to have become a vast red-light district with pornographic pictures.

In a climate with such a low level of culture, it is easy to understand a campaign against free enterprise by generalizing the effects of a few and hiding the capacity for work and the productivity of the majority.

The second government junta was formed on the basis of antibusiness stridency. All businessmen appear to illiterate eyes--the majority of the population, although the statistics hide this--as a blurred figure which emerges from the Middle Ages.

The two government juntas have represented two currents: the first, a pluralism more or less acceptable in which those who railed sought to cover up their painful withdrawal by accusing the only representative of the private sector of having brought about a "shift to the right" in the junta. The second edition of the junta, made up exclusively of Christian Democrats, implemented reforms which led to the withdrawal of one of its most prominent members and the third junta appears fearful of accepting a historical challenge. In the face of communist intrigue, in the face of the anti-business slander, it must be admitted that without free enterprise there can be no democracy in this country.

Eduardo Palomo, president of the National Association of Private Enterprise (ANEP), an agricultural science graduate, has said that an agrarian reform plan which forgets about the technicians and professionals who have made the productivity of the land possible--even if they have not worked the soil directly with their own hands--in addition to the injustice of increasing unemployment, will produce a notable reduction in agricultural production. Perhaps the third government junta should not be afraid to listen to its most serious and most constructive critics. If responsibility for economic liberalization and of determining the degree of it is up to the Salvadoran Government, as Ambassador White has said with perception, logically this government must get over the fear of listening to its critics.

JUNTA EXPLAINS FUNERAL INCIDENTS AT NEWS CONFERENCE

PA020250 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpts of Salvadoran junta news conference held at the presidential house 31 March--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Eduardo Vasquez Becquer, AP. Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto charged the Salvadoran oligarchy and the government junta with responsibility for the violence that claimed an unspecified number of victims yesterday. Does the government plan to file a complaint with the Nicaraguan Government?

[Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez] We are talking to the Salvadoran foreign minister to determine what the Salvadoran Government's attitude will be toward the statement made by the Nicaraguan foreign minister. The Salvadoran foreign minister talked to Father D'Escoto this morning and he has the same doubts as other prelates. What he felt at that moment of panic when he was inside the cathedral not knowing where the shooting was coming from was that personnel carriers were approaching and that the public force had surrounded the cathedral. Those remarks by the Nicaraguan foreign minister were the result of the collective hysteria of the people who were inside the cathedral and had no way of seeing what was happening outside. He has promised to deny his public statement and wait until we provide the proof we have that things did not happen as he thought. He did not actually witness the situation. He simply heard what was being shouted inside the church.

[Jose Napoleon Duarte] The foreign relations issue has already been stated but I am going to talk about the conversation I held with my friend Miguel D'Escoto yesterday as he was inside the cathedral. We spoke on the phone three times. I felt that Miguel D'Escoto was really nonplussed. He was very worried. When he called me he said: Napoleon, this is dangerous. There are thousands of people inside the church. They are suffocating. Some have already been killed. I beg you please to remove the personnel carriers so the people can get out. I beg you please to call the Red Cross and the fire department. That is what Miguel told me.

I told him: Miguel, there is not a single security corps member in the whole area. There is no personnel carrier in the vicinity. If that is the problem, they can come out without any danger.

But shots are being heard, he told me. Yes, I replied, the armed people who are outside are shooting and that is dangerous. Therefore I am going to call the Red Cross to see if they can get over there, and I called the Red Cross.

The second time we talked he told me: The Red Cross isn't here yet. Remove the personnel carriers. That is what the people want. I said: Look, if the Red Cross isn't there and the problem is so great, I can go over there myself. Then he said: Remove the personnel carriers. I told him: There are no personnel carriers. Then I called [presumably Defense Minister] Colonel Garcia and the General Staff and they told me that they had been able to get the Red Cross to go to the cathedral and that it was about to get over there.

During the third call, I told him that since there is no danger near the gates, if the people are suffocating, why don't they open the doors? He told me: They are open. This means that the cathedral doors were fully open and they could look outside and see that there were no personnel carriers. Therefore this is the mental picture of psychosis and fear that had been generated inside the cathedral. Some of you here now must have been in there and noticed that terror and fear. Everyone feared that there were personnel carriers outside. But I ask you, newsmen of the world, do you have a single photograph of a single soldier, a single guardsman or a single personnel carrier? There are hundreds of photographs of people carrying pistols and machineguns--armed people who were there. Who caused the incidents there? Logically those who possessed the means to fire shots and hurling bombs. Now, as [presumably junta member] Dr Morales said, is it possible that an incident may have been caused unknowingly by someone? Yes, that is possible. Is it possible that a leftwinger or extreme rightwinger premeditatedly went and fired a shot there? Yes, that is possible. All this is possible. The thing is that no one in his right mind would have thought that. Imagine what it would mean to any person, not to say a government, if the 100,000 people who were in that park should have stampeded. No government could be so sick as to generate such a situation because that would cause an enormous crisis. We therefore took pains several days in advance to avoid bloody incidents.

Not a single member of the armed forces or the security corps was in the vicinity. I think there is nothing clearer than this. I have been told: I have seen someone shooting from the national palace. Someone else told me an international correspondent saw that. I ask you, international correspondent, does a single newsman find a good reason why, knowing where the shooting originated, no pictures were taken? There is not a single picture while it was said that shooting was being fired from the rooftops of the buildings across the street and that there were snipers posted. Last night you saw the film showing two photographers. There were international photographers posted there and they took pictures but you did not see any sniper. What you saw was newsmen taking pictures. Therefore the government did everything possible so the tragic situation which, I think, both you and we regret would not occur. Now then, the bad thing is the interpretations made. The bishops' statement is an interpretation of what they were told there or what they felt during a moment of great tension. We can understand that. But the international damage that they can cause is serious.

[Jose Ramon Avalos Navarrette] To add to what Colonel Gutierrez has indicated and to show how the actions of the Coordinating Board were planned, we have a recording of Radio Moscow in which the Coordinating Board stated that it planned street actions to provoke panic and cause those deaths yesterday, mainly from suffocation, and then to blame the government. The junta emphatically states that we decided that the security forces and the army should not be in the area. We knew there were going to be fires and disorders. You saw the barricades that were quickly erected by the gentlemen of the Coordinating Board. The government preferred to allow these disorders instead of a clash between the security forces and the gentlemen of the Coordinating Board so the world would not later accuse us of being repressive and of slaughtering the people.

[Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano] The security forces are constantly vigilant to protect the lives of citizens. On that occasion it did everything possible within its abilities. At the time of yesterday's demonstration it had withdrawn its forces early in the morning so that a confrontation would be avoided. I repeat that at any rally, particularly such a big one as the one for Monsignor Romero's funeral, the use of weapons is a most irresponsible action. An accidental shot would have unleashed such a tragedy as the one you saw. This is completely prohibited by the government. The organizations know that the use of weapons by any union or political party is prohibited. None of these organizations needs weapons to support its political ideas. This is especially true now, when the government junta since 15 October has been implementing a program of social and political changes in which ideas are respected. Therefore the use of weapons is a practice of the past. This should be eliminated.

INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE, DISORDER REPORTED

Extremists Kidnap Commander

PA270337 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1826 GMT 26 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Extremists last night seized the mayor's office in Comasagua and fled after looting it, taking money, weapons and other articles. Several houses nearby were also looted. The local commander was also kidnaped. The authorities are carrying out a search since it is feared he might have been killed.

ATC Attacks Party Members

PA310155 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2007 GMT 30 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 30 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The class struggle taking place in this country as a result of the Sandinist revolutionary process has provoked its first public friction. This took place yesterday during the welcome rally for Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins in the Plaza of the Revolution in this capital.

Representatives of political parties that are comprised of persons identified with the traditional bourgeoisie of Nicaragua charged today in the newspaper LA PRENSA that they were attacked by militants of the Farm Workers Association (ATC).

The ATC, the Sandinist Workers Central, the 19 July Sandinist Youth and the Luisa Amanda Espinoza Women's Association are the popular foundations of the Junta of the Government of Reconstruction and the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN).

The charges were made by leaders of the Democratic Conservative Party (PDC), the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN)--led by the junta of government member Alfonso Robelo--the Nicaraguan Social Christian Party and the Nicaraguan Christian Democratic Party.

Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, of the PDC said that the attack came from ATC elements traveling in a pickup truck with which they tried to run over his party's members at the plaza while they were participating in the massive welcome for Herrera Campins.

The same group later attacked the MDN delegates and set MDN banners and posters on fire greeting the Venezuelan president. According to the paper's report, a woman carrying one of the posters was hurt in that incident.

Eddie Kuhll, an MDN militant, said his delegation was on the left side of the Iiaza, next to the Christian Socialists and the Social Democrats when they were attacked by ATC members shouting "popular power."

Some believe that these could have been elements of the ultraleft infiltrated into the rally. LA PRENSA noted that "it is regrettable that events of this nature take place at official ceremonies where the people must express their fraternity and mutual respect."

The complaining political parties have stated that they support the revolution, although they are not associated with Sandinist organizations because they prefer their "independence," and that they respect the "ideological pluralism" they ask of the leadership of the process. These political parties have noted that the participation of all the political, social and economic sectors of the country in the process is necessary. They note the contributions that all made to the victory over the Somozist dictatorship. The private enterprise groups insist that the government must give the necessary minimum guarantees for them to be able to decidedly integrate themselves in the work for the reconstruction of Nicaragua.

The Sandinist leaders have responded to these claims by reiterating that all sectors have a place in revolutionary work and unity, but within the framework of the rules aimed at the reactivation of the country and at benefiting and improving the life of the country's proletarian majority.

Meanwhile, Sandinist workers and peasant organizations involved in the class struggle--the Nicaraguan bishops have asked not to allow this class struggle "to become class hatred"--have accused political parties, chambers and institutions grouping important elements of the local bourgeoisie of having been "accomplices of Somozism and imperialism that exploited us for more than four decades."

One of the tasks of the government of reconstruction is that of achieving a conciliation between these groups. Of course, there have been exceptions, and bourgeois elements agreeing with the Sandinist line openly support it.

U.S. Cultural Center Bombed

PA020231 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0102 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Terrorists machinegunned and bombed the installations of El Salvador-United States Cultural Center, located on the northeastern sector of the Salvadoran capital, today. An anonymous caller claiming to be a member of the clandestine Popular Liberation Forces took credit for the attack. There were no casualties either as a result of the attack or of the small arms fire after the bomb's explosion.

The cultural center offers English courses and has been operating in El Salvador for more than 25 years.

Guatemalan Ambassador Reportedly Shot

PA012238 Paris AFP in Spanish 2218 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Apr (AFP)--It was reported here that the Guatemalan ambassador to El Salvador, Carlos Lemu Gallardo, was machinegunned this afternoon and was taken to the military hospital here, where he is in serious condition. The attack, of which no further details are known, took place near the Salvadoran high school in western San Salvador.

ERP Claims Credit for Bombings

PA012220 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1215 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] At least 10 bombs were set off in Colonia Escalon last night. After about 2200 last night a large number of very powerful explosions alarmed the capital city residents. Early this morning we received a telephone call from a person who identified himself as a Revolutionary Peoples Army [ERP] member and claimed responsibility for last night's dynamite attacks in Colonia Escalon.

According to the anonymous phone caller, the attacks were in protest of last Sunday's incidents in front of the cathedral in the downtown section of the capital during Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez' funeral.

ERP Takes Over Station

PA012131 [Editorial Report PA] San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish at 1915 GMT on 1 April 1980 after being taken over by the Revolutionary Peoples Army [ERP] states that "only the gorilla-live mentality of the Salvadoran defense minister, Napoleon Duarte, Morales Ehrlich or the American ambassador could have contrived the criminal plan" carried out on Sunday during Archbishop Romero's funeral. The station adds that "while killing Monsignor Romero was already a heinous, unforgivable crime, to attack his funeral is an unprecedented repressive action." "This is the height of provocation of our people," the station goes on.

The station continues by saying "if anyone still doubts or believes in the farce of the reform, he is corrupt or seeks to destroy the people's organizations." The ERP then calls on all peoples of the world to provide solidarity so a new land of justice, democracy and freedom can be achieved.

The station then makes a panegyric oration honoring Monsignor Romero saying that he has "left a vacuum in the forces of the people, a vacuum which will be hard to fill, and that is why they killed him.

The statement bears the signature of Joaquin Villalobos, commander in chief of the General Staff of the ERP, who then reads a message on Monsignor Romero's death. The message calls Romero a national and international symbol of the struggle for justice and peace. The message continues: "There were several reasons for the CIA and the U.S. Government to commit this crime. They go beyond the effort to provoke the popular movement to foil an insurrection. Monsignor Romero's assassination was a plan approved by President Carter, all the military-Christian Democratic junta members and the rightwing..."

At this point the transmission was interrupted, presumably when the authorities arrived.

PCES ACCUSES U.S. OF PREPARING MILITARY INTERVENTION

PA290414 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1837 GMT 28 Mar 80 PA

[Manifesto issued by the Communist Party of El Salvador on 28 March 1980 on occasion of its 50th anniversary--read by several unidentified announcers]

[Excerpt] The positive and negative experiences and the correct moves and the errors of the Communist Party of El Salvador [PCES] over the past 50 years, are a valuable part of the practical and theoretical wealth of the revolutionary and democratic movement of our people. They inspire and guide the everyday revolutionary actions of the PCES. We are a mature party not merely because we are 50 years old but because we always had a clear vision of our situation and a general political line that is correctly based on our multifaceted and intense experience and the scientific knowledge of our country and the world's historical process.

The PCES has been a stanch fighter and defender of Marxist-Leninist ideas, the working class, popular democracy and socialism during 40 years of its life. The work of the PCES has opened the path for new democratic and revolutionary sectors with its dissemination of the ideas of the vanguard, the formation of many cadres, the political training of large masses and its example as an unyielding fighter.

The appearance of new revolutionary organizations has been linked to a process of division instead of leftist unity which lasted many years. Certain weaknesses and mistakes of our party played a negative role. The PCES admits that it did not meet the revolutionary demands that were called for and it could not adequately channel them. Certain practical and theoretical errors and weaknesses for the correct implementation of its political line during the 1970's led to the ideological split and resulted in the creation of other revolutionary organizations which tried to reject the PCES.

The effort to question the scattered vanguard became, after 1976, a primary task of the PCES. This was considered a strategic task. The unity of the revolutionary forces began to be achieved after the December 1979 agreements.

Although this is true, this orientation has been one of the main components of our political guidelines for many years. The achievement of the unity would not have been possible without the efforts and willingness of the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL] and the Armed Forces of National Resistance [FARN]. These organizations had also reached the conclusion that the unity of revolutionary forces was a strategic need. There has been great progress in this historical task and this has now become a decisive factor in convincing other revolutionary and democratic organizations to focus their efforts on the integration of a great unitary front against the common enemy of our people. The prospects for reaching our peoples' desired goals for liberation are closer now.

The revolutionary organizations have become, through their unity, the main political and largest force in El Salvador. They have the support of the progressive people of the world.

From its beginning, the PCES has experienced the brutality of repression which resulted in its temporary weakness. However, the [words indistinct] hangmen of the Salvadoran people are wrong if they believe that their formula will prevent the victory of the liberating revolution.

The revolutionary and popular movement has evolved under increasing repression. It is backed by the majority of the people. It has a lot of experience. It fights by combining the political and armed struggles and it has great international support.

Now the revolution can succeed and it will succeed. In celebrating its 50th anniversary, we want to recall our comrades who disappeared and those who devoted their lives and met their death so that the PCES could live and develop. It is impossible to list all of them. We are limited to listing only those who represent the PCES struggle in each phase of its persecuted existence: Agustin Farabundo Marti, Mario Zapata, Alfonso Luna, Jose Feliciano (AMAC), Francisco Sanchez, Rafael Bondanza, Serafin Martinez, Fidelina Raimundo, Ismael Hernandez, Modesto Ramirez, Jose Celestino Castro, Oscar Gilberto Martinez Carranza, Raul Santiago Contreras, Alberto Vasquez Carcamo, Raul Castellanos Figueroa, Carlos Humberto Rivera, Luis Napoleon Moreno, Rafael Jaime Hernandez, Juan Pino Aparicio, Fernando Segundo Ramirez, Carlos Mauricio Caballo, Jose Ernesto Corcho, Jose Alberto Moran Cornejo, Roberto Miranda Lopez, Victor Manuel Sanchez Bonilla, Rafael Aguinada Carranza, Carlos Madrid, Orlando Guerrero (Chamul), Lazaro de Jesus Sallas, Jose Maria Tortilla Montenegro, Ana Silvia Olivares Solan, Salvador Sanchez Hidalgo, Gerardo Antonio Herazo, Rodolfo Antonio Villalta, Francisco Rivera Perdomo, Roberto Castellanos Brana and many other communists.

The PCES greets with all its heart the sister revolutionary organizations, the FPL and the FARN. Jointly with them, we have started the process of unity for the people which will lead them to the final victory. We greet all the other revolutionary organizations which will join this undefeatable unity in order to head the revolution, the revolutionary peoples army and the PRPC [expansion unknown]. We tell all of them that communism must never be divided again. Let us make our unity more solid and fruitful in our advance toward the final phases of the revolutinnary action.

You are listening to the PCES manifesto on occasion of the 50th anniversary of its foundation [announcer interrupts and continues reading].

The leadership of the Christian Democratic Party, which had the opportunity to contribute to the liberation of the Salvadoran people and to enjoy their affection, has sunk into treason. It has preferred to join the enemies of the people and help massacre and enslave them.

The U.S. Government, at the same time that it is maneuvering with the reforms through its puppets, is preparing a military intervention against the Salvadoran people. Within this plan, Yankee imperialism has dragged along the Christian Democratic Government of Venezuela to participate in the aggression. For this purpose, it has decided to form an invading army made up of Puerto Rican and Venezuelan soldiers. It is clearly seen that the U.S. Government would rather invade El Salvador through the cover of a multilateral intervention and under the pretext of defending a democratic and social reform government. This is part of the essential aspects of the sinister plan of the United States and Venezuela.

No honest and patriotic person can doubt that peace can only be achieved through armed struggle, by seizing power, destroying the bloody and cruel machinery of the military dictatorship and creating a democratic and revolutionary government that will guarantee freedom for the people who are now repressed, that will carry out the deep structural changes based on the support of the people, that will act sovereignly and independently in the face of Yankee imperialism, and that will undertake national economic development which will lead to continuing social progress.

Above all the speeches and phrases of the propaganda against violence, a truth has been established by the force of events: Repressive reactionary violence will never bring the peace desired by the Salvadoran people.

To increasingly unite the revolutionary forces, to forge the broadest united front of these forces with the other democratic forces, to take up the revolutionary weapons with firm determination, to be ready to resist, even the military aggression of imperialism, to seriously prepare to carry out the great final offensive for our liberation and to carry out a great work to win widely based international solidarity with our cause that will be able to tie up the interventionist hands of the United States and the Venezuelan Government; those are the decisive tasks of the popular and democratic movement, of all Salvadoran people and all patriots inside and outside El Salvador.

The PCES greets the working class, the peasants, all the workers, the intellectuals, the democratic and patriotic militarymen, the small and medium-sized businessmen, in sum, all the forces of our people who support deep and democratic changes in El Salvador and who desire a peace based on justice.

The PCES is deeply grateful for international solidarity. We greet Lenin's great party, the CPSU, the Communist Party of Cuba, the communist parties of Central America and all parties which form part of the international communist movement that in accordance with the principles of proletariat internationalism contribute to the cause of our people with their solidarity.

We greet the socialist and progressive governments for their solidary support of our cause. We greet the Sandinist National Liberation Front, the revolutionary vanguard of the heroic Nicaraguan people whose glorious deeds inspire and illuminate the struggles of the Salvadoran people.

We greet all the revolutionary and democratic movements of our country and other parts of the world as well as democratic institutions and personalities throughout the world who in one way or another have expressed solidarity with our efforts to achieve a just fatherland.

The PCES will keep its word! Liberation or death! United until the final victory! Proletariat of all countries, unite!

PCES Central Committee. San Salvador, 28 March 1980, year of the 50th anniversary.

As this manifesto was about to be published, the news of the atrocious assassination of San Salvador Archbishop Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez was learned. With this evil crime, the fascists and their oligarchic bosses have tried to silence the most clear, high and brave voice of the church committed with its people. They have sought to frighten all the forces and peoples who are struggling for the respect of dignity and human rights. They have sought to deprive the Salvadoran people of an authentic leader. The masterminds and perpetrators of this abominable crime undoubtedly are rejoicing, thinking that with it they will calm down the discontent and our people's desires for liberation. They believe that with Monsignor Romero's death, the popular struggle will be halted and they will be able to continue to exploit and oppress our fatherland as they have been doing throughout the country's history.

On vigorously and harshly condemning Monsignor Romero's assassination, the PCES expresses its solidarity with the progressive Catholic clergy who at this difficult moment accompany the Salvadoran people in their grief.

The Salvadoran people will undoubtedly respond by increasing their struggle and reaffirming their determination to achieve their full liberation, by overthrowing the fierce reactionary dictatorship and by establishing their own democratic and revolutionary government. People, there will be peace and justice!

Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, loyal to the religious principles of a church committed with the people [words indistinct] the ranks of the poor and against [word indistinct] domination, was slandered, threatened and lastly assassinated by the constant enemies of the Salvadoran people: The fascists, oligarchs and agents of U.S. imperialism.

Monsignor Romero's commitment with the people won the hearts of our people in the same way that the masses were devoted to Father Jose Matias Delgado, a fighter for independence and example of the indomitable spirit of resistance in the face of the foreign military intervention of the so-called Mexican empire of Iturbides.

The martyrdom of Monsignor Romero is in no way an accidental or isolated event. It is part of the permanent Calvary that our people and their organizations have suffered daily for many years. It is part of the brutal intensification of this since the Christian Democratic-military junta, an instrument of U.S. imperialists, took over the government.

Monsignor Romero died surrounded by the world's affection and respect. He has entered into the Salvadoran people's history along with their countless martyrs and heroes.

This is a crucial moment in our country calling on all who want to see it free of oligarchic and imperialist domination to be united--religious and laymen, believers and nonbelievers--to join forces to carry out the supreme effort for liberation. We are sure that the progressive Salvadoran church with its national and international solidarity, will follow the path outlined by the moving example of Monsignor Romero.

Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero lived his brief years as archbishop alongside his people. He fought for them and he gave his life for them. His sacrifice will not be useless. The Salvadoran people will not be defeated. They will intensify their struggle and their determination to fight until victory. Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez until victory always!

STATE OF SIEGE EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER 30 DAYS

PA020238 Paris AFP in Spanish 0207 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Apr (AFP)--The Salvadoran Government junta has extended the state of siege implemented in the country for another 30 days, beginning 5 April. In a decree issued tonight, the junta states that, due to current circumstances in the country, constitutional guarantees in connection with freedom of the press, freedom of mobilization and inviolability of residence have been suspended. According to the decree, public demonstrations may be held if organizers request the proper permit and no armed persons are allowed to participate.

MEETING HELD TO DISCUSS EXPEDITING AGRARIAN REFORM

PA010415 San Salvador LA CRONICA DEL PUEBLO in Spanish 28 Mar 80 p 3 PA

[Excerpt] An important meeting has been held at the Justice Ministry to discuss ways of expediting the agrarian reform process in the country. The initial speech was made by Justice Minister Mario Antonio Solano Ramirez, who said in the course of its development, the process of change in the country, as regards agrarian reform, has come up against some difficulties in the military technical and registration areas.

Since the Justice Ministry administers part of the juridical process for the application of agrarian reform, it is perfectly willing to meet its obligation of cooperating with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation [ISTA] who have expressed some doubts and concern and have made some suggestions for improving the process.

Although the legal departments of the Agriculture Ministry and of ISTA of the Justice Ministry did not work together in the planning, they agree that the implementation of the process should be expedited and this coordination is being sought along the way.

The minister offered all necessary cooperation.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT ISSUES ANNOUNCEMENT ON NATION'S CRISIS

PA282134 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 28 Mar 80 PA

[Presumed government announcement on current violence affecting the nation, issued 23 March 1980]

[Text] The government of the republic, seriously concerned about the latest acts of violence in the country and their toll of mourning and sorrow for many Guatemalan families, as a result of the unfortunate and fanatic action of extremist groups, declares:

1. The increase of violence is the result of the pathologic ambition for power evidenced by subversive groups of the extreme leftwing and rightwing;

2. In this wave of violence, modest and brilliant Guatemalans of various social sectors, including intellectuals, ranking army officers, soldiers, university students and officials, police officers and agents, workers and peasants, have lost their lives;

3. The extremist groups possess such cynical limits as to publicly recognize through the social communication media their direct responsibility for the crimes committed, exhibiting total disregard for the elementary values of mankind;

4. This admission by the subversive groups logically confirms that the state security institutions are not participating in actions harmful to the personal integrity of the Guatemalan citizens, for which the government emphatically rejects the false charges voiced in this respect;

5. The Constitution of the republic establishes that it is the obligation of the executive branch to guarantee the lives and rights of Guatemalans, a precept which the government is fully capable of enforcing, for which it requires the cooperation of all inhabitants of the country in the sense that they assume a posture of sobriety and responsibility in the face of the provocations of the extremists, by rejecting the watchwords of those who have adopted as their rule the base sentiments of revenge and fanaticism;

6. Violence constitutes an affront to the dignity of Guatemalans, and a resource of those who have missed the significance of reality; therefore, any such act of violence is repudiated and strongly condemned by the government of the republic, regardless of its origin;

7. The state institutions which have the necessary resources take drastic action against the intellectual and material authors of acts of violence, despite the difficulty in identifying and apprehending subversive extremists who criminally lurk underground. Other nations, like Guatemala, are facing similar problems in their fighting against clandestine groups whose objective is to sow terror and death in a sterile effort to enslave the free nations;

8. Finally, the government of the republic exhorts the members of the extremists in both sectors to abandon their antipatriotic and heartless position and avoid further sorrow and mourning to the Guatemalan families. The field of dialog and negotiation is ample and generous. The rugged path of violence can only win for their promoters the scorn of the Guatemalan people who demand to live in peace and freedom. Guatemala, 27 March 1980.

POLICE REPORT WIDESPREAD VIOLENCE OVER WEEKEND

PA010346 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1740 GMT 31 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 31 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Violence unleashed over the weekend by the leftist guerrillas and clandestine communist "Guatemalan Labor Party" left a total of 12 dead and several thousand dollars worth of damage.

The police issued a communique today reporting the death of Councilman Abel Perez Somoza, of Masagua, Escuintla Department on the southern coast. He was the top local leader of the "United Revolutionary Democratic Front" (FUR), which has now lost 10 of its national and regional leaders. Maximiliano Velazquez Melgar, president of a bag industry workers' union was also killed in Escuintla. Police claim that the two men were murdered by a group of armed men, who killed them and fled.

In Guatemala City, eight people were kidnaped and later shot to death. One of the victims is Salvadoran businessman Guillermo Jose Aguilar Gutierrez. Police did not elaborate on the killings.

In San Marcos a man was killed with a red-hot iron. In El Quiche, three peasants were machinegunned by unidentified killers. Meanwhile, four farms on the southern coast were seized by a group of men who painted the Guatemalan Communist Party's acronym on the walls and fled with loot valued at over $100,000, causing more than $5,000 damage.

In Amatitlan, the Armed People's Organization (ORPA) exploded two bombs to scatter subversive propaganda. One of the bombs seriously injured a passerby. Other underground leftist guerrilla organizations distributed thousands of leaflets in El Peten, like those in Amatitlan, referring to alleged violations of human rights by the authorities, and calling the people to insurrection.

The police communique ends with the report of three university students who were shot and had to be hospitalized, and the burning of a van loaded with cotton on the southern coast.

POLITICAL SOURCES CONFIRM SPLIT WITHIN FUR

PA220313 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 16 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The United Revolutionary Front [FUR] is openly divided, political sources confirmed today after the FUR held a national convention at the party offices in Zone No 1 of this capital. The FUR group that met at the convention agreed to participate in the municipal elections scheduled for this month. This action has been rejected by another faction of the party over the past few days. The convention was attended by approximately 150 delegates. It was promoted by FUR leaders Americo Cifuentes Rivas, Humberto Gonzalez Gamarra, Arturo Castellanos and Factor Mendez Dominelli.

The assembly agreed to give a vote of no confidence to FUR leaders Carlos Morales Cordero, Miguel Angel Landrino Diegues and Carlos Duarte.

The FUR administrative personnel in charge of guarding the doors prevented this newscast from filming the convention, claiming that they could not allow us in because of security measures.

Miguel Angel Landrino Diegues, one of the leaders of the group that was not present at the convention, said that the national convention is not valid and that they will impugn it because it was not attended by the members of the leadership council and other top FUR leaders.

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO DENIES ALLEGED REMARKS IN SAN SALVADOR

PA012126 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] ACAN-EFE transmitted a San Salvador-datelined report tonight that the Salvadoran junta has directly charged Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto with stating to foreign reporters that troops were present and that army and police (?chiefs) provoked yesterday's incidents. ACAN-EFE cited the Salvadoran Government junta as stating other things also. Now we are going to contact our foreign minister: Father, what explanation can you give of ACAN-EFE's report?

[Begin D'Escoto telephone statement] Well, first I have not read the ACAN-EFE dispatch; it was just read to me over the phone. It says I stated publicly that there were troops and personnel carriers around the cathedral and that the Salvadoran Government junta said that I made that statement as an indication of and fear of what had happened.

I want to say that I never said any such thing. Second, in any event if what ACAN-EFE says is true, then I want to say that the junta is the one that has this fear. I simply never said that. At one point I talked on the phone with a government junta member, Napoleon Duarte, and told him what was being said there [presumably at the cathedral]. I did not make a public statement because I never say what I am not personally sure of. I told him that the people there were saying that there were personnel carriers. (?I never said that since) I did not see them. Therefore it is not true that I made such a statement.

It is not true that I was at any moment a prey of fear or panic or a psychosis of any sort. If the government junta has said that, and I cannot be sure that it has, because the fact that it is an ACAN-EFE report does not make it true because ACAN-EFE often reports lies--tendentious, sensationalist, false news--I really cannot determine whether it is true that the Salvadoran Government junta said that about my alleged statement, but if it did then it is in a sort of psychosis and panic by making observations on alleged statements of mine which they should have verified before misquoting me. [end statement].

PSD SAYS FSLN WANTS TOTALITARIAN DICTATORSHIP

PA011350 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 25 Mar 80 p 4A PA

[Text] The Nicaraguan Social Democratic Party [PSD] has charged that the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] wants to establish a Cuban-style totalitarian dictatorship. The party made the charge in a document signed by PSD Secretary General Wilfredo Montalvan and Political Secretary Luis Rivas Leiva. The document is addressed to the members of the Socialist International which is made up of the world's social democratic parties and which has charged that the PSD leaders are counterrevolutionaries and opportunists. "We believe that being opposed to the establishment of a totalitarian regime in Nicaragua does not mean one is counterrevolutionary," the document stated. It also gives details of seven actions which supposedly will serve as a basis for establishing an authoritarian regime by the Sandinists.

The document stated: "We believe the Socialist International does not agree with regimes of force. It is unfortunate that without being truly informed about what is occurring in our country it issues declarations that go against what our people want: democracy yes, totalitarianism no!"

In October 1979 the Socialist International said among other things: "We vigorously condemn any attempt to sidetrack the Nicaraguan democratic and popular process, particularly when it is the result of actions by organizations such as the so-called PSD which represents dark and reactionary internal and external interests for the purpose of discrediting the honest intentions of the FSLN and the National Reconstruction Government junta."

The PSD leaders mentioned several examples of alleged authoritarian centralization "which show the desire of establishing a totalitarian dictatorship in our country." "The FSLN plans to establish a single Sandinist workers central (it is already doing so), pressuring the union federations that do not agree with this project such as the Federation of Nicaraguan Workers (CTN), the Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions (CUS) and the independent general labor confederation." The PSD leaders added that "not only have great obstacles been placed against the activities of these federations but uniformed and armed members of the Sandinist army have appeared at job sites for this purpose."

The PSD added that the Sandinists "have not approved of the establishment of our party because they plan to form a single Sandinist party in Nicaragua. To this end they are centralizing the state and have organized the Sandinist defense committees (CDS) which are a faithful copy of the Cuban Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDR)." They noted that "the FSLN leaders know they can easily eliminate the discredited and wornout traditional parties but not a party such as the PSD that was born with the slogan: "For a revolution within freedom." "In view of their totalitarian leanings they do not want political pluralism which is what they promised in the program of the National Reconstruction Government Junta."

The PSD also stressed that the Sandinists "currently control the television (two channels), approximately 30 radio stations, 90 percent of the written press and practically the newspaper LA PRENSA because of the clever participation they have given to Mrs Violeta de Chamorro, the widow of the paper's director, in the government junta."

"According to the statements of several commanders of the revolution," the PSD added, "even if the Sandinist party is being established, the army will be called the Sandinist people's army which shows that it will be at the service of a single party and not at the service of the community as a national army should be."

It also said that small and large industrialists and merchants who want to rebuild their enterprises which were destroyed by genocidal Somoza are not given any incentives.

The document stated that "it is estimated that there are now 4,000 Cubans working in our country. There are 2,000 teachers, hundreds of doctors and nurses, technicians in communications, security and so forth. We are truly concerned about this because in addition to having the job of teaching and helping the sick, these kind gentlemen also have the mission of indoctrinating our people with Marxism-Leninism. We wish all the countries which helped us in the insurrection would send aid similar to that of Cuba to counteract the influence the Cubans are having on our people."

BORGE INTERVIEWED IN BULGARIA, COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

For the Bulgarian press interview with Tomas Borge and text of the joint communique on the Nicaraguan delegation's official visit to Bulgaria 22-27 March, see the Bulgaria section of the 1 April Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

RAUL CASTRO SPEAKS AT FOURTH UPEC CONGRESS

FL311530 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1935 GMT 30 Mar 80 FL

[Speech by Army Gen Raul Castro at closing session of Fourth Congress of the Union of Cuban Journalists at Havana's Palace of Conventions on 29 March--recorded]

[Text] Dear journalist friends: Before beginning my official speech, allow me a few words of my own. I remember that as a student I wrote an article in a very small newspaper we had around 1951 and 1952 called SAETA. It probably published 40 or 50 copies. Comrade Lionel Soto, Comrade Marcelo Fernandez and I worked on that very small newspaper and I do not recall exactly its limited existence.

The title of the article was: "Cubans to Korea." Naturally, it appeared that I was calling for support of the idea managed by the oligarchy and imperialism at that time of sending Cubans to fight against the heroic Korean people. It was entirely the opposite.

Years later someone brought me the article and, although undoubtedly the idea was a very noble, beautiful and positive one, the article was very poorly written.

On behalf of Comrade Fidel and myself, I want to express gratitude to you for this high honor you have bestowed on us. And I want to warn you that I will try from time to time to make some countribution in our press--even if with badly written articles like the one I wrote more than a quarter century ago but with good intentions--and, furthermore, with the right to charge for it, [applause] to charge for it without feeling degraded by it because I am covered by the copyright law. Is that not so, Armando Hart? [minister of culture]

To my surprise, a few days ago I received a check for 180 pesos. It was payable to me. In fact, it read that it was invalid unless I cashed it within 30 days and I hastened to cash it. I asked the reason for this [the check] and was told that a speech of mine--I do not know if it was on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the opening of the Frank Pais Eastern Front--was published in a book edited by the Book Institute. The fact is that they sent me 180 pesos and I cashed the check. [laughter] I did not need the money at the time and donated it to the Patriotic-Military Education Society. And I tell the directors of newspapers that I plan to charge for future work; otherwise, I will not write them. [laughter] Are the directors present here in agreement? Good. With that condition, I reenter, although a little old now, the career field of journalism. [applause]

I warn you that I write little but speak a lot which also is another way of doing journalistic work. At least, that is the way of those who work in radio.

Lastly, on behalf of Comrade Fidel, I want to apologize for his absence. He asked me to convey his apologies to you.

Comrades: In fulfilling the mission of the party leadership, since what I am going to say here has been approved by the highest leadership of the party and is not just my opinions, to deliver the speech that puts an end to the work of this fourth congress of the Union of Cuban Journalists [UPEC], we want to salute you for its successful development and express our belief that above any other consideration, this meeting has had the virtue of having been held at the time when it was most needed.

I emphasize this because I share the idea that in ideological work and, above all, in the work of the press and broadcast media, it is necessary to develop a high sense of the opportunity which allows for exercising greater influence over national life in accordance with current needs and pressing situations.

In assessing this meeting this way, we are taking into account its significance for the cohesiveness of the workers on the ideological front who are making efforts to cope with the characteristics of the current situation successfully and to respond accurately to the demands of the building of socialism during the current phase. Comrade Fidel always has insisted and with particular emphasis over recent months that we assume our responsibilities with the proper intensification and that every problem be given its proper dimension and all efforts be harmonized to solve each of them.

We are trying to make prevail a style of analysis that is serene, mature and sufficiently precise and rigorous that would prevent excess optimism which in the long-term weakens as well as pessimism which defeats and obstructs every effort. In other words, we are trying to systematize methods which would tend to identify phenomena objectively and to resolutely oppose the easy way out of characterizing any event or situation as black or white.

The efforts to explain party policy to the masses, to stimulate their conscientious support for measures adopted and to mobilize their energy to the fulfillment of all tasks will be feasible to a great extent if the activity of the mass communications media is efficient and coordinated. At the same time, the success of this endeavor is conditioned by the need that all who direct it and all who work on it have deep knowledge and high understanding of the complexities involved in building the society, especially under the specific conditions of our country and within the framework of the complicated contemporary situation under the negative effects of the mechanisms of the world system of imperialism.

We cannot be satisfied, of course, with merely repeating our difficulties nor with expressing time and again the justifiable confidence that we will eliminate them and come out ahead as we have done so far. We need a journalism that is more profound in its appreciations and more accurate in its dissemination, that it not only reflects the realities of our society positively but also that it be an active reflection which seeks and contributes solutions and helps to realize them.

It is imperative that our propaganda and information and our ideological work in general go increasingly deeper into the important problems, that they place greater emphasis on the issues which truly define the advances on the building of socialism and that they relate to the activity of the masses in all sectors of national life, particularly those associated with the economy.

Referring to the orientation of the tasks of the press under the conditions of building socialism, Lenin emphasized the need to transform the press from an organ exclusively dealing with reporting the news of the day to a serious organ for the economic education of the masses. It will be necessary to achieve, and we will achieve it, Lenin said, that the press at the service of the Soviet masses give less space to the questions of the composition of the political leadership, to the complex political measures which constitute the usual and routine activity of all political institutions. The press, Lenin concluded, will have to give priority to the problems of work on its immediate and practical focus.

As the thesis approved at this congress expresses well, if the production of material goods represents the foundation on which life and development of human society rest and the economic management and planning system constitutes the instrument designed to channel it to satisfy the many needs of the people, then the first and highest responsibility of our criticism lies on becoming a popular, creative, profound and pleasant spokesman of that vital process and, starting from this fundamental base, project the critical image of the rest of manifestations of the country's life.

In this sense, press workers must understand and keep in mind in their work that the operation of the economy is based on a complex and extensive system of relationships that must be capable of producing everything that is necessary for the country's management and promote the indispensable accumulation of resources destined for development.

It is not a case, as has been repeated many times, of stuffing our press with data and figures in complicated, routine and dull language; but of collaborating with fresh journalistic technique, militant dedication and clear, direct language in an effort to contribute to the efficiency of social production, raise the quality of products, increase work productivity, promote savings, stimulate development of new methods of production, improve supplies and stock and promote the growth of productive forces.

It is also necessary to manifest--not with dogmatic statements but with the freshness and forcefulness of the real events that occur every day--what happens in the system of relations of the national economy as a result of the practically endemic crisis provoked by the presence and irrational behavior of developed capitalist countries as a factor that exercises a negative influence on the weak economies of underdeveloped countries. And our country is among these, although considerably less serious and counteracted by the nature of our social system and because of the solid ties that bind the socialist countries, especially to the Soviet Union.

In the content of our press, we still have not succeeded in systematizing convincing reporting on the unquestionable superiority of socialism without having to subscribe to the harmful and counterproductive practice of apologia and repetition of phrases made and stale statements without any foundation or argument.

Nothing is contributed when good things of socialism and communism are pondered abstractly as opposed to the malignancy of capitalism and imperialism. What is required is to show the unquestionable superiority of our social economic system based on real factors, data and figures exposed and analyzed with clarity, in depth, arguments and amenity. On this basis, the ruinous state and calamities faced by Third World countries can be shown as well as the successive rise in the cost of living for workers in the so-called affluent societies and the disaster which our country would face today if, going against all forecasts and facing the most powerful imperialist country in this world, if it had not made and consolidated its socialist revolution.

At times we note in some people that what they are lacking does not let them see what we have, making a reality in their unfair and partial appreciation the well-known saying: He cannot see the trees for the forest.

We must speak in clear language that is understood even by the simplest people and refer to facts such as, for example, that presently the country consumes about 11 million tons of oil annually and this volume, at current prices of the capitalist market, would mean an expenditure between $2.5 billion and $3 billion and that, on the other hand, a sugar harvest of around 7 million tons sold at those same markets at a price of let us say 14 cents [per pound] would provide an income of no more than $ 2 billion. It is not necessary to be very good with economic figures to understand that practically all the rest of the country's income from the harvest goes just to pay for the fuel we consume.

Where would we get the resources to acquire everything else? For example, the importation of 1.5 million tons of grain that are consumed annually; the machinery and equipment necessary for agriculture. What level would social security have in Cuba? How many unemployed would there be? How dramatic would the housing situation be despite the dramatic situation we are experiencing now and, above all, what would be the status of health and public education services, not to mention drugs, gambling, prostitution, corruption and so forth?

In our case, we do not have to go to the costly world oil market because our most faithful ally, the beloved Soviet Union, in a gesture that says much for its internationalist conduct and its capacity to sacrifice its own interests for the benefit of the progress of other nations, supplies us that vital product at a reasonable price, while it acquires a substantial, growing part of our sugar production at fair and stable prices for our country. Despite the advantageous trade with the USSR and other socialist states, there are certain resources, some raw materials and important equipment that have to be acquired from capitalist countries.

In that inevitable buy-and-sell effort, our economy suffers the consequences of so-called unequal trade which in practice means having to sell every day more of our products to obtain the same or even less merchandise.

We have used and do use loans from international banking. But such loans only are granted at the cost of paying high interests which at this time have experienced a sudden and considerable increase. This restricts extraordinarily the possibility and convenience of resorting to this source of financial resources.

In the face of this alternative, our party has made the decision to reduce this type of financing wherever possible and to solve our needs without resorting to such loans. This has meant that the country has had to face serious restrictions that will limit purchases in capitalist markets, devoting the resources we obtain from our economic activity to fundamental issues and preserving the achieved levels in the most important aspects for the well-being of the people.

To this policy of maintaining importations and credit requirements adjusted to our real payment ability as determined fundamentally by the price of sugar were added some imponderable problems over the 2 preceding years. These included, for example, the already known cases of blue mold disease on tobacco which has deprived the country of income of approximately 150 million pesos--this figure covers the two crops affected--and the case of rust disease in sugarcane plantations.

Along with and as part of the struggle to overcome these difficulties, work is being done to improve the organizational structure of the central administration of our state and a number of measures are being adopted designed to eliminate the deepest and determinant causes of the manifestations of inefficiency and lack of labor and administrative discipline which were opportunely analyzed by Comrade Fidel.

The measures adopted by the party and government have meant important steps in the search for an increasingly greater degree of efficiency in party and state management and of the political, mass and social organizations.

Regarding certain antisocial behavior that has been manifested, though only among a reduced minority, above all in certain urban centers, they do not require surgical solutions although we will not hesitate to use them if they are unavoidable. Above all, they require the prophylaxis, which prevents and eliminates the causes that generate such behavior that is not in accordance with our principles, guidelines of our party and realities of the country.

Regarding such prophylaxis, I am thinking first of developing an objective mechanism of economic and social relations which would counteract and neutralize such behavior and which would generate and promote attitudes that are in keeping with the new society we are building, taking into account the determining influence of the economic base in social consciousness. But I am also thinking of that prophylactic work as an ideological phenomenon and of political and Marxist-Leninist education, it should be said communist, which would lay the foundation and serve to complement the objective work of economic mechanisms and the regulations and laws that are being promulgated.

In this endeavor, the information and propaganda organs should play a prominent role and that is why I insist that nothing is more desirable and opportune at this moment than this congress of journalists which, as we expected, has become a meeting of workers of the ideological front. It is difficult to assess, in all its scope, the influence which the mass communications media exercise over the political, moral and ideological development of the masses and the important role they play in leading society as a whole. However, the press is a double-edged arm. When it is not managed adequately, when it is not guided as it should and correct discipline is not maintained in its work, results can be counterproductive.

It should be said clearly, because congresses are held to speak clearly and whoever does not speak clearly does so simply because he does not want to do so, that there is dissatisfaction among the people in general and in our party with our mass media organs, not so much with what they do--undoubtedly many times they have done so accurately and, at times, with significantly effective results--but because of what they sometimes fail to do.

We have meditated at length on why many of our friends abroad, open and knowledgeable people who are sincerely glad over our success, often speak in recrimination of the Cuban press and do not mince words in calling it boring and repetitious. We cannot pretend to be deaf and give silence as our answer and neither should we reject this criticism outright. There really is some truth in it. Of course, we know that journalists are not the only or the main persons responsible for the deficiencies that give rise to unfavorable comments on our press. To arrive at a really fair criterion, we must start by establishing how efficiently we put into practice the agreements of the First Party Congress in this connection. We must also point out that the level of understanding reached by many of our party and state cadres is still not high enough concerning the organic ties that must exist between the development of the national economy and the role of journalists, which requires the support of leaders at all levels to encourage the influx of topics to be developed, their accessibility to press sources, the proper formulation of priorities. They must get to the very core of the problems and promote the understanding and conduct demanded by circumstances.

It is often said that our press is not critical enough, that it does not reflect the most pressing problems and difficulties, that our journalists shy away from them; in other words, that they censor themselves. In such a flat statement, where are the objective elements and what line can be adopted to get rid of the black marks? To tell the truth, we have also asked ourselves: What kind of journalism do we aspire to have in order to satisfy certain standards? What kind of journalism are we compared to; to certain press organs that, in exercising the freedom that the capitalist society grants to lie in the most infamous manner, have gone as far as to invent a hoax such as that of a shootout between our top state leaders which was then generously elaborated on by Western press agencies?

Honestly, if entertainment, movement, freshness depends on that kind of thing, then we would rather not act on such a concept that violates and denigrates the journalistic profession.

In order to understand our concept of the use of press criticism, the subject must be viewed within a wider and deeper context. Cuba, we all know, is a socialist country. Its ideology is Marxism-Leninism. Its society is led by the working class in close alliance with the peasants. We are a permanent part of the socialist community and faithful defenders of the nonalined countries movement in its struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and other forms of exploitation and discrimination. Our people are led by a communist party that is formed by the most advanced members of the people themselves. We work daily to make more perfect the mechanisms to facilitate the democratic and real participation of the working people in the building of a new society, in the decisions taken, including the exercise of criticism as an important link in the march to consolidate our programs, our work.

Our enemies, very close and powerful, know that with Cuba there is no room for flirtation, hesitation, opportunism. They know that we love our independence and sovereignty for which we fought with blood and fire for over 100 years. They are also convinced that our sacred devotion to the fatherland will never let us turn the concepts of independence and sovereignty into a fetish to be used for the purposes of anti-Sovietism. [applause] There is a price to maintain for this position of principles. It requires education. It demands consequent lines of behavior and a political position expressed in press criticism of our own work in all its manifestations.

Therefore, while keeping the positive contributions of the past, we reserve the right to continue to build a new journalism to which we propose the standing task of formenting subjective, creative and dynamic forms that by their nature are superior to those achieved by capitalism. But, we must not lose sight of the abyss that separates the classist essence and the historic objectives pursued by each world. We must also compete to advantage with the bourgeois press in form, which we do not always do in fact.

We recently had the opportunity to see the objectivity of certain capitalist press agencies. As we all know, only a few weeks ago a deplorable accident occurred at the Warsaw airport. A plane from New York crashed and a group of U.S. athletes died, among others. Bourgeois press agencies, on reporting the incident, listed other instances when athletes had died in plane accidents in various parts of the world. But, strangely, in its chronological report going back from the 50's to the present, they failed to mention the Cuban junior fencing theam, some of them adolescents, who died at the bottom of the Caribbean Sea near Barbados when the Cuban plane in which they were traveling was sabotaged in midflight by murderers with ties to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, on 6 October 1976.

This is the way those who monopolize information in a great part of the world manipulate facts, distort them in tendentious reports, or ignore them, as if history could be reduced and changed in accordance with their wishes and aims.

Our publications reflect an understanding of criticism as a moment, an act, and, at times, as a task. But for the socialist press, the exercise of criticism cannot be reduced in this manner. It is not something transitory, sporadic, disjointed. Criticism has to be the style of journalism. Or better yet, as has been said, its raison d'etre. Socialist press has to be critical by essence. The journalist must assume that stand at all times in his professional activity, even if only for the simple reason that, to report on something, he must write a certain amount of material, discriminate to see what is less important, eliminate the unimportant, and write only that which is essential, useful, necessary or of interest to the reader.

It is obvious that this process is not a purely technical process. The same thing happens to the editorialist, to the feature writer, the columnist, the humorist, the film documentary maker, the photographer or the reporter of written, radio, TV, and film journalism who covers a certain occurrence or event. Most of our journalistic work is not yet imbued with that style and, in order to achieve it, creativity and depth is needed--creativity to describe and narrate in an attractive way, depth to analyze and extract from each event the most accurate conclusions.

The truth is that when our press' attitude to criticism is referred to, the subject is not often discussed as essentially a question of focus and style. Criticism is seen as a question of denouncing what has been poorly done. With this way of seeing criticism, our press will not be able to do its job as need be. It is true that now we have more precise guidelines such as the resolution in this respect approved by the most recent plenum of the party Central Committee. But it is also true that even before the resolution was issued, the congress thesis and subsequent orientations by the party had been made known with absolute clarity.

Our press is not exempt of technical shortcomings, sometimes elemental ones. And if it is at times monotonous, this is due to the mechanical repetition of the same subjects because they do not reflect social life in all its richness and because they are handled without using all available resources or paying attention to the special requirements of each medium.

In our publications, for example, a good topic is wasted because of poor writing, an inadequate headline, or deficient editing. Frequently--and I am saying this to illustrate my point--we have asked ourselves if such vast and rich topics as ideological problems must necessarily be treated in such a simple and unattractive way.

Other times, the contents go to extremes. Such is the case of those who, in exercising criticism, are not capable of recognizing positive aspects or of differentiating among the objective problems. They knock everything. For them, nothing is going right. This is attacking not helping. Mistakes are made fun of, they are not analyzed in depth. In this criticism, one can hear the echo of alien and sometimes hostile ideas which do not offer the masses any faith, any banner, but instead contribute to the masses' confusion.

Criticism among ourselves is a political duty and a social responsibility. Criticism is legitimate and productive when it is exercised in a rigorous and committed manner--that is, in a just, balanced, timely, optimistic, and above all fraternal manner. Moreover, it has to be deep and all of this is the responsibility of the newspaperman and the editor, who in the last instance approves it. These concepts might alarm the well-known and traditional guardians of the so-called freedom of the press. For them, there is only one admissible model of social behavior in the world; there is only one juridical order on the planet, one professional ethic: those engendered since its inception by the bourgeois system of production. Some because of stubborness, most because of the alternative of survival, pretend not to be aware of the new historic reality that the advent of socialism in 1917 meant, a transcendental phenomenon that changed the economic structures of the capitalist system and imposed a new set of values.

I believe that this fourth UPEC congress is an appropriate framework to once more talk about the complex and violent ideological struggle in contemporary times. First, we are not speaking idly in repeating that so-called bourgeois freedom of the press died in our country forever. We knew this freedom in the past. We recall that the most powerful press, radio, television and film media, closely linked to the commercial advertising of the great capitalist companies, in its multiform incursions on paper and ink, in front of cameras and microphones, fulfilled in surprising harmony a kind of tacit agreement that did not allow them to do injury to the economic interests of foreign, bourgeois and native landowning monopolies.

Speaking on this subject, it would be advisable, before the next UPEC congress, to have a book that would contain with objective solidity, the real history of that so-called free press. This would be a valuable contribution toward unmasking those who go around the world proclaiming themselves prosecutors and judges of the revolutionary and socialist press, as is the case in our continent of the patronal IAPA, that is, the Inter-American Press Association, whose inquisitors are beginning to read to the young Sandinist revolution the classic discourse of reprimands and calls to repentance. To our fortune and pride, we were excommunicated in our time because in the specific conditions in which the Cuban revolution confronted imperialism and counterrevolution, we were able to free ourselves in a relatively short period of time, for all time, of the hypocritical bourgeois freedom of the press.

That is why we can state unequivocally today that in our society there is no freedom of the press to defend capitalist exploitation, no freedom to defend the ideology sustained by that system of production; there is no freedom to lie, to deceive, to currupt. [applause]

From these basic principles, we see journalists as intellectual workers who discharge their social duty within the sphere of our ideology and hence, as men and women who are deeply committed to our cause both at the national and the international levels. To be able to fulfill that social function with true efficacy, as was stated in the documents approved by this congress, we need a journalistic sector made up of passionate and honest revolutionaries, consciously identified with our party line, systematically concerned with increasing their knowledge of that indispensable weapon that is Marxism-Leninism, while rounding out their general culture and raising their level in their respective specialities.

These ideas acquire a special importance in the measure that the process of the building of socialism in our country and the international situation become more and more complex. Consequently, the education of a journalist is progressively more demanding, because the essence of journalistic evaluation lies in the qualitative results expressed in a systematic, educational and mobilizing influence over society.

Precisely because of this, I believe that the work of the UPEC to encourage journalists to improve themselves which, according to the report presented at this event has been very wide-ranging, is one of the best achievements it can produce. But one thing must be kept clearly in mind. As important as self-improvement is, the organization, as formulated by your congress, must exercise its influence on the very process of the education of journalists.

Journalism is one of the professions requiring the most vocation, not only to write, narrate, or film, but also to investigate, and above all, a vocation for political-ideological work among the masses. A journalist, because of his very profession, is a reproducer of ideology, a man who multiplies his opinions by millions of issues, who is heard on hundreds of thousands of radio and TV receivers, in thousands of movie houses. Someone who reaches with his views citizens of all professions and ages and who can do a great deal for their correct orientation. Our system of selection, training and education of professionals for this sector has not taken these realities into sufficent account. Indeed, as was stated here, it has been proven more than once that a college education by itself does not make a journalist. A journalist matures and becomes a competent employee or realizes that he has mistaken his calling. This does not mean, of course, that a journalist has to be a professional with a higher degree. To meet these demands, it would be well that, in accordance with the congress deliberations, the UPEC and the Higher Education Ministry make an in-depth study and propose to the country's political leadership the necessary formulas to increasingly improve the process to educate new journalists.

Our information organs barely use the collaboration that other professionals, functionaries and leaders and workers could offer. This places them at a disadvantage when it comes to analyzing and informing on specific problems. It is almost utopian to think that a young man who has only received the rudiments of theory in college, who has barely begun his cultural education, can write accurately and thoroughly of the problems of material production, economy, finance, politics, art or any other branch of social activity. In this sense, we believe that the copyright law, as we said earlier, plays a stimulating role. Its gradual application, regulated carefully in the journalistic sector, foreseeing the excesses and vices of the past, could and should contribute to the thematic enrichment in qualitative terms. At the same time, we must work on raising the productivity of journalists. For well-known reasons, staffs in our organs grew to such an extent that we had to freeze them. But the truth is that those staffs in many places do not produce in line with the number of journalists in them. As you have set forth in very blunt language in your deliberations, some organs come out daily or weekly depending on the work of a group of journalists who sometimes represent a very reduced percentage of the total editorial staff whereas the rest contribute little. What is most deplorable is that among those who participate the least are young journalists who in this way take too long to mature.

As we have been told, in the resolutions put to the congress are several proposals on wage scales and the best alternatives for adequate remuneration of journalists in line with the socialist principles of the correspondence between the wages and the individual effort evaluated in terms of quantity and quality. We feel that the corresponding state agencies together with the administrative groups, the trade union, and the UPEC itself must formalize specific proposals concerning this basic issue. At at any rate, the way to fully accomplish all tasks assigned cannot be growth in the number of personnel.

We must seek efficiency in productivity at work, a more qualitative competence of the cadres, officers, and workers in general, and we will travel more swiftly along the path to reduce expenses in the sectors not directly linked to the production of material goods, and we will make our administration more agile, and the leading of the society as a whole will be more effective. Increase efficiency and the staffs will be reduced. Or as we say in the Revolutionary Armed Forces, let knowledge, not staffs, grow.

Comrades: We should like to take this opportunity to be with journalists to refer briefly to the world situation. For you--men and women used to dealing with cabled dispatches, international pages, and radio, television and movie news--the tense and complex panorama that serves as the framework of these days is obvious. Within this context, we see, not so surprisingly, how the multifarious and millionaire propaganda machine of the U.S. Government is trying to portray the events in Afghanistan as the cause of the deterioration of international tension. At the same time, it is trying to use the subject as a coverup for its bellicose raving. However, anyone who reviews, for example, the files of news agencies or collections of newspapers and magazines for the year 1979 and over the past 3 months will find a renewed, gradual and dangerous militaristic escalation on the part of the most conservative and reactionary U.S. sectors.

This evidence becomes quite clear when we analyze how these forces doubled their steps and hardened their bellicose language to the extent that revolutionary and progressive forces of the world attained new successes, the traditional hegemonic field of imperialism continued to be reduced by leaps and bounds and the policy of detente was imposed with multiplied vigor. It is clear that the factions which want to contain the forces of social progress, independence, national liberation, social justice and peace have imposed themselves on the current U.S. administration by changing from cooperation to confrontation.

Over the past few months, we have witnessed a militaristic escalation and a wanton anti-socialist campaign designed to divert U.S. public opinion from its pressing domestic problems. This has involved the following events: presidential approval of a $30 billion program for the production of the MX intercontinental missile; the sending of a larger military budget to Congress; giving the green light to the creation of the so-called Rapid Deployment Force primarily aimed--according to official plans--against oil-producing Arab countries and whose command post, as a matter of fact, is located very close to us in the state of Florida; the ostentatious and artificial minicrisis over the presence of a reduced number of Soviet personnel who have been in our country for the past 17 years; the subsequent landing of Marines at the naval base they usurp in Guantanamo; the establishment of a strategic command in Key West, exactly 90 miles from our country, to handle the militarization unleashed in the Caribbean; the naval escalation in the Indian Ocean and the threats of attacks on Iran to settle a bilateral conflict; and plans to place 572 nuclear missiles on the doorsteps of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

After reviewing the aforementioned warmongering inventory, how is it possible that the principal spokesmen of the U.S. Government are trying to make the world believe that the recent events in Afghanistan are the cause of the serious deterioration of international relations? That is why the sensible voices of the world have every right to demand from the highest U.S. authorities and those who hope to replace them to put an end to the thoughtless policy of placing the world on the path of catastrophe. Behind the rehearsed public voices, behind the inflamed phrases of alleged nationalism and agitation of threats to justify a return to the language and policy of the cold war, there is a frivolous electoral campaign capable of placing personal aspiration above the future of mankind. It is no wonder that, on 14 February, news dispatches and important publications of Western Europe reported statements of a high-ranking International Olympic Committee official suggesting that future Olympic games be scheduled so that they do not coincide with U.S. election campaign years. At the same time, they added that the official accused the U.S. Government of using the Olympic games for its own political benefit. If this clear and direct accusation by an international official continues to help uncover the backdrop of the hysterical U.S. official campaign aimed at boycotting the Moscow Olympics, following this same thought we would find part of the substantial motive on which the so-called Carter doctrine is built in all its magnitude.

No one in the revolutionary camp expects imperialism to renounce defense of its positions. No one expects that U.S. rulers will cease being what they are. What we do have the right to demand is a greater sense of responsibility and realism, basing ourselves on a conclusion expressed last year by high-ranking figures in Washington according to whom, and now I cite the essence of their own words, the United States cannot dictate the course of events since the time when it imposed its will on the world, militarily or by economic pressures, has passed.

That is why we firmly believe that the policy of pressures, threats and blackmail is doomed to failure. For the same reason, we believe that those who reject blackmail today in the long term will demonstrate that their policy of principles was correct and that, in the face of the anger of enemies and opportunists of varied types, this policy will be the impregnable servant of the most costly, profound and lasting interests of mankind.

It is up to you, Comrade journalists, and very especially the ones who work directly with international matters, to play a very important role in the daily clarification and orientation of this problem which is characterized as never before by its complexity and variety of nuances. In its journalistic treatment, it forces professional classification where ideological intensification, level of information, analytic rigor and clear meanings are harmonized.

Lastly, on this international subject and concerning the situation in Central America, particularly the heroic struggle of the Salvadoran people in the face of which U.S. rulers are trying all sorts of interventionist formulas, including slanderous insinuations about alleged Cuban assistance in the form of sending arms to that country, I refer to the editorial published by GRANMA today setting forth clearly the position of our party and government.

Comrades, the profession of journalism is in truth a thrilling occupation. Proof of this is the fact that it has been for centuries and still is one of the most controversial activities. This is due, first, to the nature of journalism itself and the many facets that can be part of the personality of journalists who--as Marx liked to say--can play the role of paid swordsman for the worst causes, a mediocre defender of decadent ideas and attitudes or a militant, brilliant and sometimes spokesman of popular causes.

The founders of our theory, Marx and Lenin, and also Jose Marti--our national hero and undoubtedly the most universal Latin American politician of his time and one of the most brilliant Hispanic writers--also had controversial ideas about journalism because journalism is in itself as contradictory as the class societies in which they learned their work.

What can be said about the bourgeois press dedicated to the job of manipulating public opinion, and what very different things can be said of a revolutionary and progressive press devoted to orienting and organizing the masses?

That is why journalists, more than learning and citing the opinions which these giants of revolutionary thought and action had about their profession, should dig deeper into the type of journalistic work they did because the truth is that Marx, Lenin and Marti not only had ideas about journalism, they also were journalists themselves. In their lives and the peculiar manner in which they exercise this profession are found the essence of the ethics of revolutionary professionalism because ethics are, above all, a conviction which necessarily must be translated into conduct.

It is moving to reread the pages that tell the most difficult times for Marx as an immigrant in London when his pen already was one of the most prestigious in Europe and to learn that, sacrificing time in his monumental scientific work, he devoted himself to writing newspaper articles to earn a living and support his family.

What sort of journalism did Marx perform then? Did he perhaps devote himself to writing banal things and fall into the nets of the trivial life of the big city?

His articles are justifiably considered part of this theoretical work. They are written in elegant prose, stressing the nature of complex social processes, putting each man in his place as well as the struggle of the people and workers.

Many of his works most likely went into the editor's wastepaper basket because Marx, despite working for the bourgeois press, never wrote anything he did not believe in or let his pen serve a cause that was not his own even when it meant that he and his family would endure innumerable privations.

For Lenin, journalism was his weapon for a long time. His name and his history cannot be written without mentioning ISKRA, (RABOTNICHESKO DELO) and PRAVDA.

Marti, creator of a party, the soul of a liberation army and organizer of a war, learned early that a newspaper was a vital need for the struggle. He used the pages of PATRIA masterfully to convey his message and his optimism about a war about whose risks he was not unaware but whose historic need was inevitable. He is the same one who not only considered that the press was necessary for the immediate aims of the struggle, but also wrote a magazine for children whose articles today are classic of what children's literature and journalism should, can and must be.

For 20 years the majority of our journalists have worked hard and firmly. They have improved themselves and have given high proof of their unlimited loyalty to the cause of the revolution. They have occupied all the trenches--those of daily work, defense of the country and internationalism from whose missions they have left a rich graphic testimony.

Today, when their fourth congress comes to an end, our deepest and respectful recognition goes to the representatives of Cuban journalists who camera and pen in hand courageously exercised their profession in the jungles of Angola or on the sands of Ogaden.

It is now a question of gaining efficiency and quality, overcoming the routine, strengthening the role of the news media and their organization--the Union of Cuban Journalists--to raise its prestige and authority and perform a better function in the necessary collective effort so as to come out ahead.

You will hold future congresses. There will be even better ones than the one for which we are gathered today. But this one is a tribute to something very dear to journalists--current events. This has been a timely congress and, therefore, its results will be significant.

We greet the new UPEC directorate elected by you and wish successes and victories to all. Many thanks.

THREE MORE CRASH INTO PERUVIAN EMBASSY

PA012353 Paris AFP in Spanish 2330 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Havana, 1 Apr (AFP)--An undetermined number of Cubans, one of them shot by the police, apparently managed to gain entrance to the Peruvian Embassy here this afternoon in a bus, according to diplomatic sources.

Some 30 minutes after the incident the AFP correspondent saw the blue and yellow bus outside the embassy gate after it had crashed through the embassy fence. One of its rear windows was riddled with bullet holes.

Last week three Cubans managed to gain entrance to the embassy in the same way. There was no shooting then. With this new incident, there are now 19 Cubans in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana awaiting safe-conducts to leave the country for Lima.

MALMIERCA REPORTS ON SOUTH ASIA MEDIATION EFFORT

FL011108 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Apr 80 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, chairman of the nonalined countries movement, has sent separate messages to Dr Babrak Karmal, chief of state of the People's [as heard] Republic of Afghanistan, and Gen Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. In the messages, Cuba offers its good offices to try to contribute to a political solution to the complex situation in that region of South Asia which represents a grave threat to world peace and security.

As special envoy of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, it was up to Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca to deliver the letters to the presidents of Afghanistan and Pakistan with whom Malmierca held fruitful talks during his recent trip to those countries.

The Cuban foreign minister also met with his Afghan counterpart, Dr Shah Dost, and Pakistani Foreign Affairs Adviser Agha Shahi. At these talks, the elements contained in the message of the chairman of the nonalined countries were expanded concerning the need to seek the means to find a solution to the current conflict in that region which would guarantee to all states of the area complete exercise of their sovereignty and independence and the safeguarding of their territorial integrity.

Upon his return to Cuba on Saturday, Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca reported to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro the result of his effort and delivered the replies to the messages sent to Presidents Babrak Karmal and Ziaul Haq.

MOURNING PERIOD DECLARED FOR VIETNAMESE PRESIDENT

FL311056 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 31 Mar 80 FL

[Excerpt] The Cuban Council Council of State has declared 31 March and 1 and 2 April official mourning days as a consequence of the death yesterday, Sunday, of Ton Duc Thang, president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

FIDEL CASTRO GREETS KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN ON ANNIVERSARY

BK291051 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 29 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Vientiane, 29 Mar (KPL)--Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee recently received greetings from Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist [Party] of Cuba Central Committee on the occasion of the Lao Party's anniversary.

Following are excerpts of the message:

"On the occasion of the 25th founding anniversary of the LPRP, on behalf of the Communist Party of Cuba CC, our combatants, our entire people and on my own behalf, I should like to convey you and through you to the LPRP CC, the combatants and the Lao people, our warmest congratulations.

"In the past quarter of this century, under the close and correct guidance of the vanguard Marxist-Leninist LPRP, the Lao people had achieved a score of victories...and at present, the message went on, the Lao people have also been able to overcome numerable difficulties inherited from the past regime. They have uplifted their living standard and are on the march towards socialist transformation."

Furthermore, the telegram said, the Lao people have simulataneously been able to counter threats, sabotages and acts of aggression and counterrevolution which have been organised and founded by the imperialists and the Beijing reactionary authorities."

The message wound up by expressing conviction that the Lao people firmly united around their party, and enjoying support from the socialist community and other friendly countries, will score new and bigger victories in their heroic struggle.

GRANMA BLAMES U.S. FOR 'INSANE SLAUGHTER' IN EL SALVADOR

FL291759 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1406 GMT 29 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Under the title, "Monsignor Romero's Blood Will Make the Salvadoran People's Struggle Stronger and the Victory More Inevitable," GRANMA today carries an editorial noting that the cowardly assassination of the Salvadoran archbishop has shaken the whole world with indignation and horror. The editorial says that the noble, generous and justice-seeking blood of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero has spilled, as an unremovable stain, on the dirty alliance of Yankee imperialism, the Salvadoran oligarchy, the ruling military junta imposed by the United States and a faction of the Christian Democratic Party of El Salvador.

Those who pulled the trigger in the assassination of Archbishop Romero are the same who decided the overthrow last October of tyrant Carlos Humberto Romero. GRANMA states that the U.S. Government must bear heavy responsibility in this insane slaughter of the heroic Salvadoran people. The editorial says that the United States is sponsoring plans to interfere in El Salvador with the support of the Guatemalan and Honduran armies. A direct landing of U.S. troops is theratened and many Yankee experts and huge resources are placed at the disposal of the maneuvers.

GRANMA says that it is very suspicious that the news of Monsignor Romero's slaying coincided with some Yankee political figures, with the help of U.S. press agencies, launching their agitation with the oft-repeated charges against Cuba.

GRANMA's editorial makes it clear that Cuba, of course, owes no explanations to the Yankee imperialists.

We Cuban revolutionaries convey our deep and heartfelt solidarity with the extraordinary example of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero, the GRANMA editorial emphasizes. It adds: We feel solidarity with the Salvadoran people who today mourn him. Their sincere and ardent tears are the only tears that have a place at his tomb. In the midst of their pain, there is the certainty that this crime once and for all has buried the demagogic maneuvers of imperialism. It ushers in a stage in the hard road ahead for the Salvadoran people which will only end with the full and final victory of their just cause. Monsignor Romero had said recently: The new society is coming and it is coming fast. His blood and his example will make the struggle stronger, and the dawn of a new life for the Salvadoran people will be more complete and irreversible.

POLICY ON INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT OUTLINED

FL011154 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Apr 80 FL

[Text] Cuba will observe the international sugar agreement it signed in 1977 as long as it does not become an obstacle to its economic and social development, Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas has declared in London. Cabrizas outlined Cuba's position when he spoke at the meeting of the International Sugar Organization Council which discussed redistribution of basic export tonnage.